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BRAZIL

CAPABILITIES OF SISDACTA AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM DESCRIBED

Rio de Janeiro MANCHETE in Portuguese 4 Jul 87 pp 60-65

[Report by Arnaldo Bloch]

[Text] Four weeks ago, a small plane with German colors was producing guffaws in the Western World and consternation in the Soviet bloc. Mathias Rust, a 19-year-old kid, brought off a feat as unprecedented as it was dangerous: he landed his Cessna in the middle of Red Square, in the center of Moscow. The peaceful landing of the plane caused heads to roll in the Kremlin and must have shaken up the commanders of the various air forces on this planet, including ours. To check it out, MANCHETE flew to Brasilia and took a [discreet] look at the status of the Brazilian Air Space Defense System (SISDACTA). Our report follows.

"Any air defense system, no matter how efficient, is subject to a failure such as the Russian system experienced." The statement is that of Major Duprat, chief of public relations of CINDACTA 1, based in Brasilia. He noted that, recently, in the Soviet Union itself, an officer succeeded in fleeing the country in an ultra-light plane, made of non-reflecting material which is difficult for radar to detect. "Even balloons can deceive a good defense system," he added. According to the major, the flight of a small single-engine plane like the Cessna, flying low and at low speed, is often undetected by the sensors, but there is an explanation for this: actually, the systems are set up to detect and combat attack planes, much larger and faster, which fly at high altitudes. Said the major: "Only Israel manages to protect all its borders by means of an air defense system. Even so, it must be remembered that this is a country more or less the size of Sergipe State...."

Created early in the 1970's, the Brazilian system--still in a phase of expansion--already covers a significant portion of the country. At the heart of the system, we will find a modern center, capable of simultaneously handling air defense and civilian and military air traffic control. This is CINDACTA 1, part of a system which, in a few years, will be protecting all of Brazil's air space.

Installed in Brasilia's Lago Sul, CINDACTA 1 covers the states of Sao Paulo, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro and Espirito Santo, as well as the Federal District itself and part of Goias State. In this area, measuring 1.5 million square kilometers, is concentrated the country's greatest volume of air traffic, as

well as our major industries, economic activities and political-administrative decision centers. To make this coverage possible, CINDACTA 1 receives information 24 hours a day, gathered and processed by a network of radar stations mounted strategically in key areas of this important territorial polygon. This information enables the operators of CINDACTA 1 to determine, on the television terminals in the control room, whether the aircraft localized (target) is a civilian or military plane, a helicopter or a glider and even to identify the plane model, in addition to receiving such information as the name of the operating company, speed, altitude, direction and other details. If the aircraft is not identified or does not jibe with any anticipated flight plan, a red light will flash incessantly. It is the warning signal. The target must be intercepted within a few minutes by a Brazilian pursuit plane. The responsibility passes to the next room (military operations center), which, using monitors and a telecommunications system, will guide the interception mission. This mission will be carried out by Mirage or F-5 pursuit planes, always standing ready in the hangars at the air bases nearest to the region which has been invaded.

Colonel Mauricio, commander of the 1st Air Defense Group at the Anapolis base, 140 kilometers from Brasilia, explains that time is the most important factor in these operations. "The reaction time must be very swift. No more than 4 minutes should elapse from the time the target appears on the screen until it is confirmed that this is an unidentified aircraft. This way, we can react before the supposed aggressive craft can advance very far toward its objective," he said. Within seconds after the activation of the final alert (which comes from CINDACTA), the FAB [Brazilian Air Force] pursuit planes are already conducting the RAD (Long Distance Reconnaissance), when the situation will be clarified. If the aircraft is hostile, there is no time for hesitation. "If it does not obey our order to land, we ask for urgent instructions, through the center, from the General Staff. Depending on the order, we can fire on the invader." This same procedure may be adopted against civilian planes if the latter do not obey the command of the Brazilian pursuit planes.

Such missions are simulated daily, for training, tests and evaluation of the efficiency of the pilots and of the system--or even at the special request of MANCHETE. Aboard an HS, a small jet plane used to transport ministers of state, we flew from the base at Brasilia to the Anapolis base, one of the principal bases in the country. The trip, which would normally take 15 minutes, was made longer by a thrilling circumstance; shortly before we were due to land, we were intercepted by two Mirage pursuit planes, which practically "leaned on" our plane. Always flying in formation, the Mirages gave the impression that they were warning us, as if the pretty French pursuit plane, with its dark grey colors, had assumed its own personality. In CINDACTA 1, the simulated mission was closely observed. A special combat landing completed the fantastic journey.

If such simulations are routine in the FAP training system, real interceptions are very rare. Only two are noteworthy, both of which occurred in 1982. Many readers must still remember the incidents of the Cuban Illyushin and the British Vulcan which invaded our air space during the Malvinas War. The Cuban plane, (Russian make), which was carrying Ambassador Emilio Aragonés Navarro, was sighted and forced to land, very reluctantly, at the Brasilia air base.

The plane was released the next day and flew on to Buenos Aires. The incident with the British fighter plane was more complicated. The pilot had just completed a mission in the Malvinas Islands and invaded our air space because of fuel problems. The plane was intercepted by two F5E pursuit planes, which took off from the Santa Cruz base, in Rio de Janeiro. Because of the protests from Argentina, the plane was held for a week.

SISDACTA does not end at the CINDACTA 1 stage. Installed in Curitiba, CINDACTA 2 is already in the final phase of construction and has even more advanced equipment. Entirely underground (only the administrative section is on the surface), the center will cover the entire southern part of the country. The radar stations which will serve the center are already functioning and the integrated system (center-air bases-radar) will be in full operation within a short time. CINDACTA 3, which will basically cover the Northeast, is coming off the drawing board. All the projects are ready and were designed for maximum economy. Construction on the main building has already been initiated, as well as the radar operations in Salvador, Natal and Fortaleza. The fourth stage, designated Amazonia, is a low priority on the FAB's timetable and will cover a very small air traffic area. Thus even the Amazonia--for which the plans do not include construction of a center, but only the installation of radar stations--is already in an advanced stage, in terms of the specific project for a terminal in Belem.

Mindful of the accelerated technological advances as this millennium ends, the FAP, insofar as possible and within budget limitations, is attempting to keep pace. CINDACTA 1, for example, is already obsolete in comparison to its brother in the South and is currently undergoing what, in military language, is called "Retrofix" (revitalization process). The Brazilian Mirages and F-5's are also being adapted to the advances in military aviation, principally with respect to weapons.

Thus the Brazilian system is moving toward more complete and efficient coverage of our air space, which is as gigantic and our territorial extension. While there is no guarantee that an adventurer such as Mathias Rust would not be successful in a surprise visit to one of our public squares, on the other hand there is no indication that such an incident would have repercussions as serious as the crisis in the Kremlin. In any event, adventurers of every stripe should take care, because SISDACTA is not there to play games.

6362
CS0: 3342/146

NUMERICAL PRESENCE OF MILITARY IN PLANALTO PALACE VIEWED

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 May 87 p 7

[Unattributed report: "Constant Presence of Military in Planalto Palace"]

[Text] Brasilia (Agencia Estado)--Established in rooms that are decorated soberly with symbols of the fatherland and are accessible to civilians only in audiences scheduled well in advance, the military continue to be a preponderant force (at least in numbers) in Planalto Palace, where President Jose Sarney is feeling the effects of "overpopulation"--that is to say, too many government employees who are totally unnecessary for the purpose of carrying out the everyday tasks at the center of governmental power.

Planalto Palace has often been referred to as "GHQ," and the expression is apt in the light of the comings and goings of uniformed men, which remind one of the activity that is normal at the military ministries. The military are ostensibly located on the fifth floor and in the annex, which contain respectively the Military Household of the presidency; the headquarters of the National Service for Intelligence (SNI); and the National Security Council--and in fact contain the largest group of personnel in the Planalto complex.

If the plan to "dry up" the Planalto Palace administration must ultimately be implemented, Ronaldo Costa Couto, minister-chief of the Civilian Household of the Presidency, will take into account the existence of 368 military personnel (of the three branches of the armed forces) out of a total working staff of 2,190 in Planalto Palace.

The figures for the Military Household can be broken down as follows: 15 personnel (including Gen Bayma Denys) work at headquarters; 10 at Navy subheadquarters; eight at Army subheadquarters; and 19 at Air Force subheadquarters. The Security Service, for its part, numbers 316 military personnel. The Planalto roster does not include the SNI or the National Security Council, which are regarded as entities that are detached from the administrative structure.

Costa Couto's Military Household currently has a complex structure. The staff of the minister's private office numbers 38, but one of Costa Couto's advisers disclosed that of the 12 secretaries who had worked for Marco Maciel until the first of this month, only two remain. The rest were returned to their original

government departments. The subheadquarters of the Governmental Action Oversight department has 38 personnel; that of Intergovernmental Relations, 28; that of Institutional Affairs, 38; that of Parliamentary Affairs, 38; and that of Legal Affairs, also 38. This structure also includes the Department of Administrative Support, with 20; the Division of Documentation, with 50; and the Division of Data Processing, with 18.

The Press Secretariat, together with the Special Secretariat of Communications of the Federal Administration (SECAF), have between them a total of 100 personnel who are administratively subordinate to the Civilian Household and politically subordinate to President Sarney, who prefers to exercise more direct control over their action.

As a member of the personal staff of the president of the republic, Jorge Murad--the "super son-in-law," as he is called--enjoys the privilege of having the largest number of government employees (42) at his disposal, followed by Ambassador Rubens Ricupero, special adviser, with 13, and the Technical Advisory Council (which also includes cultural advisers), also with 13.

To serve the official residences of the president and "palace ministers," Planalto Palace has a total of 171 government employees. An additional 407 work in the administration properly speaking, which shares the fifth floor, the basement, and the annex with the military offices. Another surprising figure is the 417 chauffeurs and supervisors of the Transportation Sector justifies the palace "overpopulation," which also includes 38 employees of the Ministry of Health (doctors and nurses) to take care of it.

According to Minister Costa Couto, these figures--although they are official--fluctuate considerably because of one curious fact: Planalto Palace has, strictly speaking, only one government employee: the president of the republic. The remaining employees hold positions of trust, and by far the greater number of them have been requisitioned from other governmental departments.

10992

CSO: 3342/128

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY DEBATES EXACERBATE PARTY DIVISIONS

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 May 87 p 5

[Article by Flamarion Mossri: "Constituent Assembly Intensifies Party Divisions"]

[Text] Brasilia (Agencia Estado)--The internal divisions of the political parties are becoming more clear-cut as the examination of social and economic issues goes forward in the Constituent Assembly. The division within the PMDB (which has existed for more than 20 years) is being intensified during the almost 4 months the Constituent Assembly has been in session, and for the reason that had been anticipated: the ideological split that is the trade mark of the "front" presided over since 1971 by Ulysses Guimaraes.

Various groups operate within the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party]. There are divisions within the PFL [Liberal Front Party]. Within the PDS [Social Democratic Party] there are those who do not favor opposition for opposition's sake and have agreed to give conditional support to Sarney but without the exaggerated and impetuous behavior of party leader Amaral Netto. Planalto Palace has good friends in the PL [Liberal Party], PTB [Brazilian Labor Party], and PDC [Christian Democratic Party]--and likewise in the old "Party" (the PCB [Brazilian Communist Party]).

Because it is the largest Brazilian party--a kind of "Arenao-70" (although it has the advantage of having grown with the direct vote)--the PMDB certainly is the party that has the most room for dissent. Unlike the other groupings, in the PMDB the conflict is ideological: there are currents respectively of the moderate Left, radical Left, Center, Center-Left, and Center-Right.

The Center-Right faction is engaged in intense activity, with the objective of grouping together members of Congress of the PFL, PDS, PTB, PDC, and PL to oppose what they call the "increasing pro-nationalization sentiment" of the group of leftists within the PMDB, PDT [Democratic Workers Party], PT [Workers Party], PCdoB [Communist Party of Brazil], and PSB [Brazilian Socialist Party]. Those moderates who are reorganizing as the "Democratic Center" are motivated by obvious ideological concerns, as well as by their pronounced interest in backing President Sarney and in clipping the wings of Ulysses Guimaraes.

Carlos Sant'Anna, Expedito Machado, Roberto Cardoso Alves, and many other members of the PMDB are not talking just within the party. They are turning

their attention to the centrists of other party labels, with a view to accumulating votes to oppose the forces of the Left "in the defense of private enterprise and the democratic system." Adolfo Oliveira and Afif Domingos, of the PL; Jose Egreja, of the PTB; Siqueira Campos, of the PCD [as published]; Arnaldo Prieto and Alysso Paulinelli, of the PFL; Virgilio Tavora, Lavoisier Maia, and Achilles Mota, of the PDS--among others--are being solicited to act as "coordinators" of this movement, which seeks to "prevent the forces of the Left from controlling the drafting of the new Constitution."

The leftist forces--who before they were organized had begun to act arrogantly in the Constituent Assembly--are aware that they will be facing powerful adversaries. The representatives of the leftist elements of the PMDB are in permanent contact with the PDT, PT, PCdoB, and PSB for the purpose of putting together a "front" capable of disputing step by step every provision in the text of the new Constitution. The various groups have assigned priority to two committees: Social Agenda and Economic Agenda.

In recent days there was emerged within the PMDB a "Nationalist Movement of National Unity" in opposition to poverty and the foreign exploitation being practiced in our country. This title may outwardly resemble a slogan of the struggles of the old PC of the 1950's but is contemporary in nature while standing for the same principles: agrarian reform, distribution of agricultural surpluses to poor families, opposition to the IMF, nationalization of the banks, and opposition to the cartels.

This "Nationalist Movement" did not neglect to bring its objectives up to date, including the holding of direct presidential elections; adoption of the parliamentary system of government; and intensification of the moratorium. The principal coordinators of this group are: Aloizio Bezerra (Acre), Mansueto de Lavor (Pernambuco), Jose Paulo Bisol (Rio Grande do Sul), Marcio Lacerda (Mato Grosso), Jose Mello (Acre), Roman Tito (Minas Gerais), and Jose Fogaca (Rio Grande do Sul), as well as Gerson Camata and his wife Rita Camata.

The "Nationalist Movement" proposes to "break the PMDB loose from standpattism so that it may continue in actual practice to be the major channel of struggle for social and economic change in Brazil." And he asks: "What does it avail the PMDB to be in the government if it is unable to implement its platform of social and economic progress in behalf of our people?"

Another group--the "Young Force"--has begun to operate within the PMDB, but without any ideological characteristics or social or economic demands. Its coordinators, however, are not so young: Helio Costa (Minas Gerais) and Wilson Campos (Pernambuco). The latter is the father of the vice-governor of Pernambuco, Carlos Wilson.

The young people, in this case, will probably be in the Congress--all of them in their first term. What they actually want is to win turf; to be seen; to be recommended for this or that permanent technical committee; to be heard; and to have one of their number in the "flashbulb republic" of Ulysses Guimaraes, Renato Archer, and Raphael de Almeida Magalhaes.

10992

CSO: 3342/128

IGNACIO DA SILVA ON STRIKES, PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY, ELECTIONS

Sao Paulo VEJA in Portuguese 6 May 87 pp 5, 6, 8

[Interview with Workers Party president Luis Ignacio Lula da Silva by Christine Samarco; date and place not specified; first three paragraphs are VEJA introduction]

[Text] Constituent Assembly member Lula speaks of strikes; says the president should reach an understanding with the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party]; and advocates direct elections, to be held as soon as possible.

When Workers Party [PT] national president Luis Ignacio Lula da Silva, a former metalworker, was elected to the National Constituent Assembly with 650,000 votes--the largest vote for a deputy in the nation's history--it was anticipated that he would encounter some surprises upon taking his seat in Congress, but he caused just as many himself. What has been seen so far is a deputy who is much more surprising than surprised. Unlike the majority of the freshman deputies in the Federal Chamber of Deputies, Lula strolls through the chamber completely at his ease, and has adapted quickly to coexistence with veteran wheeler-dealers of Brazilian politics. He is also building bridges to deputies who at first glance would appear to have nothing in common with him. He has been seen holding lengthy and frequent conversations with Sao Paulo businessman and deputy Guilherme Afif Domingos of the PL [Liberal Party] and says his thoughts are centered on various subjects. He is willing to vote with former cabinet minister and deputy Delfim Netto of the PDS [Social Democratic Party], provided the matter in question concerns the PT. "I'm a negotiator," Lula describes himself.

He does not agree with the assertion that the deputies have excessively large staffs, but acknowledges that there is a lot that is wrong in the Congress, beginning with the system of remuneration of its members. Three weeks ago Lula took the podium to argue in favor of subsidized meals and transportation for the service employees of the Chamber of Deputies, which had been eliminated. "How can we do right by 135 million Brazilians if we are unable to keep meals at 10 cruzados even for the service employees here?" he asks. At 41 years of age, married, the father of four children, and a trade unionist for 2 decades, the deputy sees the agreement reached this year between the metalworkers of the ABC [Santo Andre, Sao Bernardo do Campo, and Sao Caetano do Sul] industrial districts and the employers without a strike as evidence of the workers' maturity. "The present economic situation is not propitious for strikes," he

explains. Wearing a button that said, "Sarney isn't doing the job. Direct elections now!" pinned to his shirt, Lula granted the following interview to VEJA last week.

The Workers Know How To Strike a Blow

[Question] The metalworkers of the ABC region used to strike every year. This time--to the surprise of many--they reached an agreement beforehand with the employers. What happened?

[Answer] We didn't strike this year, but we have done so when nobody else did. Seven years ago Sao Bernardo used to go out on strike regularly, but today it has decided to do the opposite. In my opinion this was a demonstration of extraordinary political vision, given the fact that it was not a good agreement. From the standpoint of wages, it was a terrible agreement. However, the economic situation--not the political situation--made the workers realize that it was not the time to go on strike. We would be more vulnerable than in previous years. The situation of the companies--from the standpoint of production--is worse. For the first time in 12 years I saw comrades cast a unanimous vote for an agreement--comrades some of whom had already lost as many as three jobs and been arrested but believed that this was not the year to go on strike--at least not in the month of April.

[Question] Does the PT believe it is necessary sometimes to join with the employers even though the wage earner is losing money thereby?

[Answer] The question has to do not with the PT but with a vocational category. We are not bargaining for governmental power, but only for an agenda of demands in one specific category. The union exists for the purpose of improving relations between capital and labor; the party exists for the purpose of transforming society. The two things are entirely different. Negotiation is a normal process in Brazilian trade-union affairs, and I believe that Brazilian trade unionism is acquiring maturity and skill in the art of negotiation.

[Question] Does this also mean that the PT is changing?

[Answer] No. It means that the working class is more intelligent than one might think. It means that the working class has the ability to make a political analysis of current events. It means that the working class knows when to strike a blow and when it must draw back.

[Question] Has the business community changed?

[Answer] No. Unfortunately, Brazilian businessmen continue to be backward in their social outlook. They are capable of philanthropy, of donating land for a children's park and even for a day nursery in their factories, but they are not capable of looking at workers' demands as social problems.

[Question] The PT has been identified as an instigator of strikes and as a factor for destabilization of the government. Do you accept that role?

[Answer] I do not accept it, because I do not believe it is true. We of the PT would be pleased if it were, but it is not true. We do not have the structure to carry out an operation of a scope comparable to that of organizing the strikes in our country. The PT is not--nor does it wish to be--behind any strike. We want to be united, to be unified: to be helpers, doers, and winners.

A New Course: Punishing the Government Employee

[Question] In connection with the most recent bank employees' strike--and also more recently, during the job action by the teachers--society showed a certain impatience with the work stoppages. Is this not prejudicial to the outcome of other strikes?

[Answer] What I have told those parents who are puzzled and worried because their children are still living at home is that they are forgetting something, namely that wages must be in keeping with each occupation. That's what I tell my wife at our house, because I know only too well what it means to have four kids at home all day with no classes to attend. "You're tired with four," I tell her. "What about a woman who teaches for a miserly salary and is obliged not only to take care of 40 but to teach them as well?" The government thinks that with 4,000 to 5,000 cruzados she will be suitably remunerated. I am positive that if a teacher were paid a salary of 20,000 cruzados he or she would not strike. Government employees are today the category that goes on strike most often; in order to understand why, however, you have to know how much these public servants are paid.

[Question] Do you believe that public employees who are hired for political reasons should be discharged?

[Answer] Anyone who merely drapes his coat over a chair and collects his salary at the end of the month should be fired. Whoever hired him should be fired as well. However well qualified a citizen may be, he has no chance competing with someone who is recommended by a deputy, is a friend of a senator, or is a relative of a cabinet minister. I agree with the belated statement by former finance minister Dilson Funaro to the effect that corruption--and immunity from prosecution--must be ended in our country.

[Question] Is it easier to go on strike if you are in the public sector?

[Answer] Yes, at least in theory. However, I note that it is becoming fashionable to talk of punishing government employees who go on strike and of deducting days not worked from their pay. Workers in the private sector have been punished since 1978 with suspensions, imprisonment, and conscription under the National Security Law. In the public sector the problem is political appointments, which are making strikes more difficult. These employees owe favors to one politician or another and could create difficulties at the time of a strike.

[Question] What do you think of the way the government is dealing with strikes by public employees?

[Answer] I have called the government irresponsible for the way it has dealt with strikes. All I ask is sensitivity. If the government does not want work stoppages, it should call together the concerned job categories before the strike actions start and show them the national budget. If this is public business, why is this information withheld? Why does the government act like a private businessman, who answers merely that he has no money? This neglect has contributed to an increase in the number of strikes in the public sector. The official excuses of the government of our country are not even minimally credible.

[Question] Does this also hold true for the prefectures of Diadema, in Sao Paulo State, and Fortaleza, both of which are controlled by the PT?

[Answer] No PT administrator may ever say that he will not negotiate with strikers. Moreover, it is not expected that he will resort to any punishment. Regardless of how much a strike may impair the public services and cause economic damage to a prefecture, the issue is preeminently political and must be dealt with on a political level.

[Question] In Fortaleza, Mayor Maria Luiza made the prefecture's budget public but ultimately was confronted with the kidnaping of a secretary in connection with a strike action. What is the explanation for this?

[Answer] There is a group of civil servants in Fortaleza who have received no pay in 6 months. It is only natural--more than natural--for these people to cease to offer their services in such a situation. Maria Luiza opened up the prefecture's books but because of a lack of financial resources could not make up even a part of the arrears that the previous prefectural administrations had allowed to accumulate. From that point on she could be able to govern more successfully. It should be noted, however, that at no time did she threaten the strikers.

[Question] In Fortaleza, is the PT on the side of the strikers or of the prefect?

[Answer] I believe it is necessary to distinguish between the actions of a political party and the actions taken by a job category. In Fortaleza the PT--even though it was part of the prefectural government--had to support the teachers, doctors, and other categories that were on strike, whenever their demands were legitimate. In such cases the party must be even more skillful: it must not only give its support but also satisfy the demands of the personnel even before the strike begins. I, at least, do not agree with the notion that a strike is acceptable only in someone else's house and not in one's own house.

[Question] What is your opinion of President Jose Sarney?

[Answer] He was prepared to be the "eternal substitute" player but suddenly found himself to be a first-stringer. In my opinion he has not yet learned how to handle the so-called presidential power. He should have the humility to understand that it is now time for him to legitimate himself as president by means of a direct election.

[Question] Why is the PT calling for direct elections without delay?

[Answer] It is not possible to have a new constitution and also to have a president elected bionically by an electoral college that the people themselves were trying to repudiate when they failed to reelect 65 percent of the deputies who had been part of the electoral college. We are advocating direct elections, to be held soon--6 months after promulgation of the Constitution; direct elections held without any delay would paralyze the constituent process. At the conclusion of the Constituent Assembly we should schedule not just an election to elect a president but general elections as well. An interval of 6 months after promulgation is reasonable, but there would be no problem in accepting the scheduling of direct elections for 15 November 1988.

"I Have a Degree in Social Problems"

[Question] Would you be a candidate for president of the republic?

[Answer] I would run if my candidacy would help to organize the party at the national level. It would be an opportunity to present the party's platform. I realize that I have only an elementary school education, plus the SENAI [National Service for Industrial Apprenticeship] and my apprenticeship in the trade-union movement; but when I analyze the political, sociological, and philosophical expertise of the most recent presidents, I feel myself superior to them because I have a degree that they do not have: a degree in the understanding of social problems.

[Question] What is your opinion of how the legislative branch is functioning?

[Answer] The machine won't run. It was made not to run, with the result that deputies are elected, spend 4 years in the Chamber of Deputies, and don't see their bills given any consideration. Bills are handled in accordance with the interests of the technical committees and of the parties that have the majority of votes.

[Question] How can a member of the Constituent Assembly feel free to criticize the executive branch if he has not been able to solve the problems in his own house?

[Answer] The legislative branch is as much a victim of bureaucracy as is the executive branch. In a speech I made 3 weeks ago I said I had come to the Constituent Assembly with my head and heart filled with hope for the approval of a series of bills of interest to the working class. I very soon discovered that this thing called the National Congress doesn't even have the strength to prevent the elimination of the restaurant and collective transportation privilege for the service employees who work here pursuant to contracts with private service companies. How is it possible to do right by 135 million Brazilians if we can't even keep the 10-cruzado restaurant for the service employees? There is also the character deficiency of the legislative branch, which winds up under the control of the executive branch through the instrumentality of patronage.

Deputies Should Pay IR [Income Tax] Like Everyone Else

[Question] In your opinion, do the deputies have excessively large staffs?

[Answer] I don't think so. A federal deputy is entitled to a chief administrative officer (salary: 14,000 cruzados); an aide (12,500 cruzados); a secretary; and two pages. The party leaders are each entitled to an automobile. As for the salary, I may say that in my opinion it is unusually high; in Sao Bernardo do Campo I would today be receiving--after two triggered wage increases--17,835 cruzados. To go from that to 70,000 cruzados seems overmuch. I'm not afraid to say, however, that for most of the deputies this amount means absolutely nothing. They are here not for the salary but for the influential role they might play in getting a bill passed.

[Question] What do you do with your salary?

[Answer] We of the PT donate 30 percent of our net salary to the party. The problem is that in the form in which it is paid today, a deputy's salary is immoral. It is one thing for you to tell the people that you earn a fixed sum of 7,000 cruzados while you are receiving allowances for housing, transportation, fees, and I don't know what else. It is quite another thing--but honest--to have a fixed salary of 70,000 cruzados subject to the same income tax that falls on the salary of any other Brazilian citizen.

[Question] What sort of relations do you have with businessmen?

[Answer] I get along well with them, and incidentally always have. When I assumed the presidency of the Metalworkers Union of Sao Bernardo, the policy was that you could not be alone when you talked with them, in order not to be corrupted. As union president, however, I came to the conclusion that if 50 workers accompanied me to the talks, the employers wouldn't tell us 10 percent of what I wanted to know.

[Question] You have talked extensively with Guilherme Afif Domingos of the PL, deputy and former president of the Sao Paulo Commercial Association. Did the two of you discover that you had common interests?

[Answer] It's of little importance to me that Afif was a cabinet secretary in the Paulo Maluf state administration in Sao Paulo. What's important to me is the fact that in his statements Afif has shown himself to be a somewhat more open-minded and frank type of businessman. We talked about the right to strike and about trade-union autonomy and freedom. I told him I hoped he would convince his peers to do as he does, because that is not the policy people see being practiced in the ABC. I believe that Afif is today a modern businessman who is disposed to fight to bring about a Brazilian society that is somewhat more receptive from the standpoint of labor gains.

[Question] Deputy Afif Domingos is in the habit of speaking in support of the interests of the middle class. Does the PT view his proposals with enthusiasm?

[Answer] We of the PT would undoubtedly espouse what Afif is demanding in behalf of the middle class. He postulates that a great struggle must be waged to enable the "little guy" to have his innings in our country. I have noted that Afif supports the Guaranty Fund; the PIS [Social Integration Program]; PASEP [Civil Servants Welfare Fund]; and FINSOCIAL--objectives that also have the support of the working class. I am rooting for him to continue on this course and to vote for these proposals put forward in the Constituent Assembly.

[Question] You are well acquainted with Minister of Labor Almir Pazzianotto, who at one time served as an attorney for the Metalworkers Union of Sao Bernardo do Campo. What do you think of his record as labor minister?

[Answer] That is precisely my problem with Pazzianotto. To begin with, he is an extremely competent lawyer from the standpoint of his knowledge of the labor movement and of the Brazilian trade-union structure. It's just that he is putting into practice absolutely nothing of what he learned in the labor movement and--why not say so?--nothing of what he learned in the Metalworkers Union. He has no political authority to impose--at least publicly--what he used to believe as an attorney. If he's of no use as an executive, he should at least say what he thinks.

Talk of a Coup Designed To Restrain the Forces of the Left

[Question] Do you believe that the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] is right in vetoing various names proposed for the Ministry of Labor, such as its veto of the nomination of Ceara Governor Tasso Jereissati to be minister of finance?

[Answer] I believe it is legitimate for a very simple reason: If the president of the republic (Sarney) has no legitimacy--and if in order to govern the country he must depend on a party (the PMDB) that holds 307 seats in the Constituent Assembly--he cannot choose a cabinet minister on the basis of an intimate consultation with members of his family. Yes, he needs to consult with the majority party, which supports him in Congress. I, as president, would never quarrel with a party that has 307 seats in the Constituent Assembly. I would certainly try to convert them into supporters of mine. Sarney has fumbled the ball.

[Question] A lot of people have recently revived the specter of a coup d'etat. What do you think?

[Answer] This talk of a coup is a ploy intended to put the brakes on the advance of the forces of the Left.

[Question] Are you afraid of Urutu?

[Answer] I'm not afraid of anything. I'm not fool enough to come out a loser to Urutu. I believe it's a mistake for the Urutus to take to the street when there's a strike.

[Question] In your opinion, does Urutu have any practical effect on strikes?

[Answer] It may break up a strike action but cannot destroy the concept of the strike. When I was arrested in 1980, Gen Golbery do Couto e Silva thought that our strike action would come to an end. The strike was effective for an additional 24 days, and there were other strikes in the years that followed.

FIESP PRESIDENT AMATO VIEWS DEBT TALKS, BRESSER POLICIES

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 May 87 p 53

[Interview with Sao Paulo State Federation of Industries [FIESP] President Mario Amato by O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO reporter Jorge Abduch; date and place of interview not specified; first two paragraphs are O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO introduction]

[Text] Despite the goals set by the minister of finance, FIESP president Mario Amato believes that the government will not be able to restrain the growth of the Brazilian economy, because of the entrepreneurial vigor of the Brazilian people and of the underground economy. In his appraisal of the results of the first 8 months of his tenure as head of one of the most powerful organizations representing the nation's businessmen, Amato commented on the difficulties faced during the period of the unfreezing of prices (for which he was criticized in various quarters) and said the time has come for the government to deliver on the measures it had promised. During the exclusive interview granted to our reporter Jorge Abduch, Amato held the PMDB responsible for the situation in which the nation finds itself, and defended President Sarney's shifting responsibility to the party.

Disclosing that he had conferred on various occasions with representatives of the banks that are Brazil's creditors, the FIESP president said he believes that Brazil will arrive at a favorable agreement with respect to the foreign debt, following a period of hardened positions.

"They Called Me 'Bakunin,' Called Me Crazy"

[Question] After 8 months as head of the Sao Paulo State Federation of Industries, what kind of balance sheet have you drawn up for this period?

[Answer] I always wanted to be president of this federation, because I believed I had a contribution to make to the business sector, but I wanted this to come naturally. My idea was to promote integration between capital and labor; channel the efforts of the business community; unify the various segments of private enterprise; promote greater coordination among the departments within the federation; and attempt to give the manufacturing sector an independent entity: the Center for Industry.

[Question] Of all your goals, which ones have been achieved?

[Answer] With respect to coordination between capital and labor, we have had good results: proof of this is found in the agreement signed with the ABC metalworkers--the first one in 6 years. Moreover, I believe that despite all efforts to provoke tension between capital and labor we have consistently gotten along well with or without strikes, especially now that there is a new attitude. We have also succeeded in channeling the energies and aspirations of the entrepreneurs of industry but without giving them instruction, because they have already received their training. We have also been successful in unifying the various segments of the business community. Today we are holding meetings, speaking the same language, and discussing the general affairs of the nation. It was not right to perpetuate the previous situation--one in which commerce, industry, agriculture, and the financial sector used to criticize and speak ill of each other.

[Question] Wasn't there coordination among your various departments?

[Answer] There was, but we are trying to intensify it. For example, the Higher Economic Council now includes the most diverse currents of thought, so that we will not always be reciting from the same primer.

[Question] Allowing for the differences in respect to time and situation, do you believe that during your tenure you have achieved more successes in respect to solving the problems of industry?

[Answer] I don't think so. I believe it's all a question of time and opportunity. Luis Eulalio, for example, was the right man for a particular time. I may not have obtained the results that he did, nor did he obtain the identical successes that I have achieved today. Moreover, he has a well-defined entrepreneurial attitude, whereas the type of person I am--because he comes from very humble origins--is more populist, but constructively populist. For example, I was successful in increasing participation by businessmen in the Federation.

[Question] How did that help you to lead FIESP during the cruzado transition?

[Answer] My thinking is simple: Brazil is more important than any of us. I love my country very much and therefore tried to do what I thought was most important for Brazil. That gave me a certain strength. The cruzado transition, for example, led me to disagree with some aspects of the views of former finance minister Dilson Funaro, who is an unsullied member of this organization. Every time we talked it was in an atmosphere of mutual respect, because he knew these were matters that concerned the nation rather than individual groups. The Cruzado Plan was successful in changing the thinking of the people, orienting it toward a desire for a better Brazil.

[Question] Does this feeling still prevail?

[Answer] When the government, the workers, and the business community are all participating, our society functions. The government stopped participating, however, and continued to spend and issue money.

The workers did make their contribution, but it was the businessmen who cooperated most fully during the first 4 months. Subsequently, the price of services increased by 30 to 40 percent and wages by 25 to 30 percent. How would it be possible to hold down these costs? If the government--which was in control of all the machinery--had established the cost of services and at the same time realigned those sectors that were caught off balance, it would have arrived at a better result. Instead, the government chose to embark on a policy of confrontation with private enterprise, using imports to bring down domestic prices. It lost every time, with the result that the foreign exchange reserves were exhausted. This was a time for patriots rather than heroes. It was my luck to maintain the most realistic position. I was regarded as a disciple of Bakunin; I was denounced. I was told by friends: "You've lost your mind; you can't oppose the government." But I wasn't threatened or intimidated.

[Question] Do you feel any bitterness over this episode?

[Answer] No, I'm not bitter, even though I have been criticized for some actions that were in fact correct. I was even lucky--as it turned out--because I suddenly found myself in an important role. When I saw the president I told him I was a patriot; I explained that I had not said what I had been quoted as saying but was merely calling attention to an already existing situation and therefore did not need to apologize.

[Question] Do you believe that Brazil has taken a very hard line with its foreign creditors?

[Answer] Yes, but it was a good idea, because the strategy is alternately to attack and retreat. Former finance minister Dilson Funaro was very good at "attacking." Whether he got results only time will tell, but the new minister can now "retreat" and get a more favorable agreement. The other countries have gotten such agreements, thanks to what happened in Brazil. Everyone who concluded agreements after that did obtain better conditions, so why not us? Such an agreement, however, could compromise Brazilian development. We are aware of this possibility, and must be sure that the negotiations are held under auspicious circumstances.

[Question] In this connection, what do you think of Finance Minister Bresser's proposal to limit economic growth to 3 percent this year? Does that satisfy the needs and aspirations of businessmen in the industrial sector?

[Answer] I believe that nobody in the world--neither Sarney nor Bresser--will be able to achieve this result, because our people have an inner entrepreneurial energy that no one can restrain. Unless, of course, the government eliminates all credit; but the government would thereby be depriving itself of its own sustenance, and it would fall.

[Question] Credit is already quite limited, however, simply because of the interest rates. Would not this fact by itself restrain growth?

[Answer] In the case of some sectors, yes. It cannot be overlooked, however, that there has already been an excess of extravagant buying in recent months. It is clear that this cooling-down process is causing concern.

[Question] Do you, as president of the Sao Paulo State Federation of Industries, favor opening up the Brazilian market?

[Answer] I regard the Brazilian market as analogous to a child who must be cared for until such time as he has sufficient maturity to go it alone, because from that time on an excess of solicitude becomes prejudicial. If industry does not attain maturity by a specified time, the reason will be a lack of capability, and the market will then have to be opened up to others possessing greater capability.

[Question] Has Brazilian industry attained this maturity?

[Answer] Most of our businesses have, including the computer technology sector. We must open the door further, because technology is progressing so rapidly that if one does not keep pace, the gap cannot be closed.

[Question] At the time the freeze was lifted, FIESP stated its position vigorously. Today, in view of Finance Minister Bresser's plans for moderate growth and the possibility of a new freeze, do you believe this is the time to protest?

[Answer] No, not at present.

[Question] Have you spoken with the minister on this subject?

[Answer] I did. And he--a professor, an honest man who speaks only the truth--said he plans to institute a new 60- to 90-day freeze if prices rise sharply, but only when all sectors are in alignment. It's not quite the same as saying, "I'm going to institute a freeze."

[Question] What is your estimate of the performance of the PMDB in this phase of the transition to democracy?

[Answer] The PMDB is, in my opinion, a party that has united various currents of thought but has not yet arrived at a common position. One hour it's this, the next hour it's that; it's like a giant wheel turning. The party is still in the process of maturing, but it is responsible for everything that is happening. The PMDB--the Front--is responsible for all this. The president has had a humanist education; he is a poet and does not know how to administer punishment. He is a good man, but I actually believe it would be better if he were not so good.

[Question] Should he therefore make the PMDB more responsible for shaping government policy?

[Answer] Certainly, because he is a party man. You can see now that the party is pushing the growth thesis, because it wants money to finance its political program. Some will even give Dilson Funaro his due, because it is not possible to have 22 banks of issue--as was formerly the case--with the state banks functioning as if they were banks of issue in order to finance the local governments.

[Question] What about early direct elections? Do you think they are justified?

[Answer] No, I do not. I believe this effort amounts to casuistry. The campaign for direct elections failed because of casuistry. Its proponents changed the rules of the game, and now they want to try again. I'm in favor of the parliamentary system, but not now. We must put an end to the artificiality of the materialists, who want only to derive profit from governmental power and influence. I believe that at the present time we have a law that must be respected. It can be changed, but not at the whim of group interests.

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CSO: 3342/128

12 KILLED IN VARIOUS CONFRONTATIONS WITH CNI

FPMR links Alleged

Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 17 Jun 87 pp A-1, C-4

[Text] Seven persons were killed early yesterday morning in a shooting confrontation with security forces which lasted half an hour, when a "barracks house" of the extremists in the community of Conchali was surrounded.

Added to the foregoing are five other members of the Manuel Rodriguez Front [FPMR], who were killed in consecutive confrontations with agents from the National Intelligence Center (CNI), occurring between Monday and dawn yesterday in the communities of Las Condes (one), San Miguel (three), and Nunoa (one).

During the confrontation of the largest proportions, which took place in Conchali, and in which four men and three women were killed, the action began at 0500 hours yesterday, with a bloody shooting between security forces and a cell comprised of a dozen extremists, who were meeting and waiting for the group chief to commit an extremist act of a large scope, as police sources noted.

The director of DINACOS [National Social Communication Division], Ivan Cordova, in turn, remarked that the incident stemmed from investigations carried out after the discovery of arsenals, the attack on the president of the republic, armed assaults on financial institutions, and attacks on CNI quarters.

During the course of these investigations, one of the ringleaders of the so-called FMR [Manuel Rodriguez Front] was located; he was killed upon resisting with the use of a firearm, as claimed by the DINACOS director, who identified him as Recaredo Ignacio Valenzuela Pohorecky. The documentation seized in this incident enabled CNI to conduct the series of operations culminating in the Conchali confrontation, Cordova commented.

The official added that this background information and other data prompted CNI to carry out a group of operations in the context of an expanded order for investigation (No 1402, of 15 June 1987) issued by the Third Military Inspector's Office in Santiago.

Four members of CNI were wounded in the operations, two of whom sustained serious injuries. All were confined in various assistance centers.

The government's official communique stated that seven persons affiliated with FMR were taken into custody, and are being held in Investigative Police premises.

In the raids, the agents confiscated M-16 rifles, P-25 submachine guns, AKA 47 rifles, fragmentation grenades, automatic pistols of various calibers, T-4 plastic explosives, amongelatine, tear gas bombs, detonators, primers, detonating cord, large amounts of ammunition, and subversive documentation.

Seven Fatalities in Conchali

Based upon records procured during the various operations started at noon on Monday, a contingent of security forces went to the section at 3500 Recoleta in Conchali, at 1600 hours yesterday, according to the police.

The agents, who were riding in four vehicles, cordoned off the area of Pedro Donoso Street between Recoleta and Orquidea Alley. Two of the vans were strategically stationed on both corners, thereby encircling building No 583 on Pedro Donoso.

The reported indicated that a large number of agents moved silently to surround the site, while others stationed themselves on the roofs of the adjoining dwellings. Using a bullhorn, they ordered the residents of the dwelling, later described as a "barracks house," a place where the extremists remain just a few days awaiting instructions to carry out a terrorist act, to surrender.

It was claimed that the warning was answered with heavy fire from M-16 rifles and automatic short-barreled weapons. They also threw three grenades outside.

According to accounts from residents, the shooting between the subversives and agents lasted nearly half an hour. The occupants of adjacent houses were warned to remain in their premises for protection.

Upon finding themselves nearly under the control of the security agents, the subversives hid themselves in a rear room, while others fired from two rooms looking out onto Pedro Donoso Street, and from the building's hallway.

It was claimed that, during the battle, three extremists managed to escape through the back yards.

Finally, the CNI forces brought down the terrorists. Three bodies were located in the rear room, and three more in the first two rooms, while a seventh was in the hallway. All showed multiple bullet punctures.

When the premises were searched, four rolls of amongelatine with their respective detonators were found, as were primers, fragmentation grenades, two M-16 rifles, two FAL rifles, other short-barreled automatic weapons, and large amounts of

ammunition of various calibers. In the house there was only one cot and a double-bed mattress. It is presumed that the subversives slept there in shifts.

The violent individuals were supplied with heavy parkas, jeans, boots, and mountaineering berets. They also had M-16 rifles, ammunition, fragmentation grenades, four rolls of amongelatine, and short-barreled, automatic weapons.

According to DINACOS, three of those killed were identified as Manuel Eduardo Valencia Calderon, Elizabeth Edelmira Escobar Mondaca, and Ricardo Hernan Rivera Silva. It was claimed to be impossible to immediately identify the other four persons because of the chance that they might have false documentation.

However, other police sources recorded the following identities: Jose Alberto Diaz Gallardo, aged 27; Guillermo Ernesto Della Torre, 28; Ricardo Cristian Silva Soto, 24, allegedly a chemistry and pharmacy student at the University of Chile; and it was noted that the other two women were between 18 and 20 years old.

A few minutes later, the military inspector, Luis Acevedo, arrived on the scene, examining the bodies and issuing the order to remove them.

The area remained under the protection of the National Guard, which prevented access by reporters.

At 1015 hours, two vehicles from the Legal Medical Institute arrived, picking up the bodies and taking them to the morgue.

The police cordon was lifted at 1100 hours, but the "barracks house" remained under uniformed police guard.

It was claimed that the property belongs to David Galvarino Tilleria, and consists of two houses subdivided by a brick wall. Residing in one of them is Agustin Tilleria, with his wife and three children, whose ages range from 3 months to 12 years. Until a few weeks ago, the other was occupied by Daniel Tilleria, a guitar instructor who is on a tour of Argentina. The confrontation took place in the latter dwelling.

It was announced that this property had been rented 2 months earlier to one of the individuals killed in the operation.

Other Confrontations

The series of confrontations began at 1210 hours on Monday, facing No 1179 Alhue Street, near the corner of Zaragoza, in the Villa Colon, a community of Las Condes. Killed there was Recaredo Ignacio Valenzuela Pohorecky, identified by CNI as FMR's logistics chief. He was carrying a 9 mm caliber automatic pistol and a fragmentation grenade, as has been noted.

At 1822 hours on the same Monday, continuing the probes started at noon in Las Condes, the security agents had a confrontation with three extremists at the corner of Varas Mena and Alley Two, in Villa Austral, a community of San Miguel.

One of the subversives was killed on the site, and the others escaped. The person killed was identified as Patricio Ricardo Acosta Castro, who was carrying a pistol of Soviet origin of the Daya make, with 10 bullets, two of which had been fired.

Later, at 2110 hours, the forces went to the Las Condes community again and raided the premises located at 7793 La Quena Alley, in the Apoquindo section. There, they confiscated an M-16 rifle, 2 kilograms of T-4 plastic explosive, 150 cartridges for an M-16 rifle, and FMR documentation, including texts containing plans of future extremist acts and subversive pamphlets.

It was claimed that one terrorist managed to evade the police cordon, and that this person was an FMR operational chief or high-level instructor in the terrorist structure.

At 0010 hours yesterday, another team of police and security forces, based upon information that was collected from the previous investigation, went to 417 Varas Mena, a few blocks from the site where Acosta Castro had been killed. On those premises, four persons were caught, who fired at the agents and police. Killed in the operation were the terrorists identified as Wilson Daniel Enriquez Gallegos, aged 30, and Juan Waldemar Henriquez Araya, 35. The latter was carrying an ID card in the name of Juan Enrique Cardenas Hernandez.

Wounded by a bullet was Santiago Montenegro Montenegro, who was later arrested on a public street by the National Guards from the 12th Station. The subject admitted having been present in the confrontation that occurred on the premises at 417 Varas Mena. DINACOS reported that the terrorist was confined in an assistance center under police guard.

At 0011 hours, in Villa Olimpica, Block 897, apartment 217, Julio Arturo Guerra Olivares was killed under similar circumstances. Found in his possession also was extremist documentation, an identity card in the name of Felix Octavio Gonzalez Garcia, a 38 mm caliber pistol, and two fired shells. The subsequent check of the extremist's fingerprints made it possible to determine (according to the official report) that this individual was one of the subversives who had attacked President Pinochet at Cajon del Maipo.

Subsequently, at 0120 hours, upon raiding the premises at 3281 Heroes de la Concepcion, in the El Salto section, they confiscated AKA-47 rifles which, according to an official account, had been left behind by extremists who succeeded in escaping.

Barracks House

A high-ranking police chief, in commenting on the confrontation which occurred at 582 Pedro Donoso, in the Conchali community, where seven persons were killed, remarked: "That property proved to be a 'barracks house' of the Manuel Rodriguez Front, which had been occupied for several days by a terrorist cell."

He noted that the occupants were preparing to commit an extremist attack, and were waiting for instructions from a higher chief when they were caught.

He remarked: "They were dressed in parkas, jeans, mountaineer berets, and boots, and were about to leave at any time. It is presumed that the head of this cell, who was supposed to give them the order, was one of the individuals killed in the confrontations in the Las Condes community."

He also observed that there were certain records indicating that the subversive act was to be committed over the weekend, but he declined to state what the target selected was.

Accounts From Residents

Residents of the Pedro Donoso section said that, after hearing bursts of machine gunfire, they saw the civilian police surrounding the small dwelling, climbing the adjacent roofs to enter the house in which they would carry out the raid. Yesterday, there were bullet holes on the facade of the building, but no damage or signs of bullets were noted on other dwellings in the area.

One resident recalled: "The shooting lasted 25 or 30 minutes. I got up to open the door for the civilian police, who asked me to let them come in quickly. They were armed and stationed themselves beside the site, aiming at the house in which the extremists were presumed to be located. I later entered my house, because it frightened me."

A male resident who has a residence opposite the house where the shooting occurred on the other side of the street said that he had heard the female neighbor next door to the incident as she shouted: "Please don't shoot; there are children here!"

In Custody

DINACOS indicated that, during the course of these investigations, several FMR members were arrested, and are being held in premises of the Chilean Investigative Police. Their identities are: German Jorge Duarte Romero; Mauricio Andres Duarte Romero; Cecilia del Carmen Valdes Toro; Sonia Monica Hinojosa Sanchez; Hector Luis Figueroa Gomez; Mario Edmundo Nieto Yanez; Miguel Naoas Nikail; and Santiago Antonio Montenegro Montenegro.

More Weapons Found

Finally, yesterday afternoon, the National Guard announced the discovery of a bag containing an LAW rocket launcher, an M-16 rifle with four loaders, three grenades, and a large amount of anfo explosive.

The subversive equipment appeared half-buried on an uncultivated site located at 535 Tanenbaum, near the corner of Santa Rosa, in the community of San Miguel.

The police presume that it belongs to extremists who opted to get rid of the weaponry in view of the series of operations carried out by CNI.

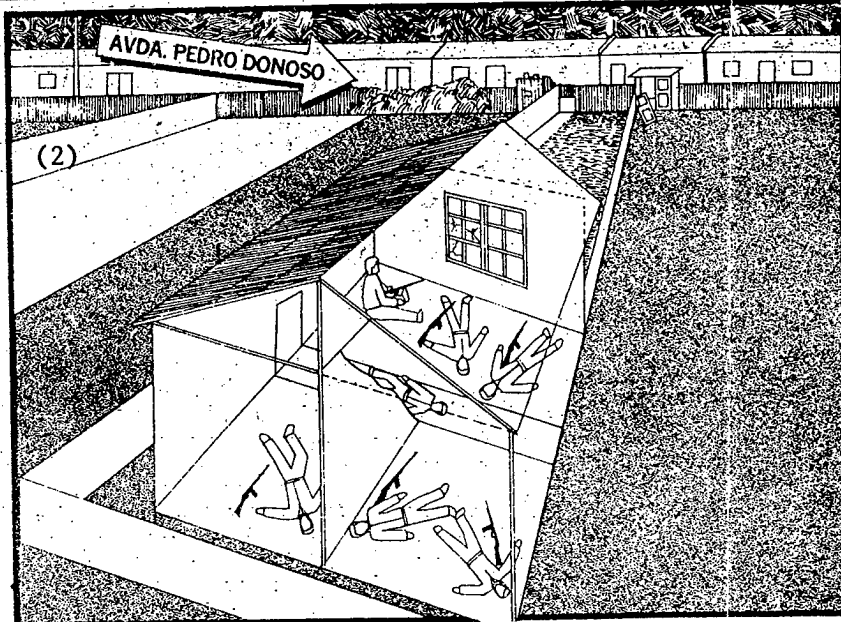
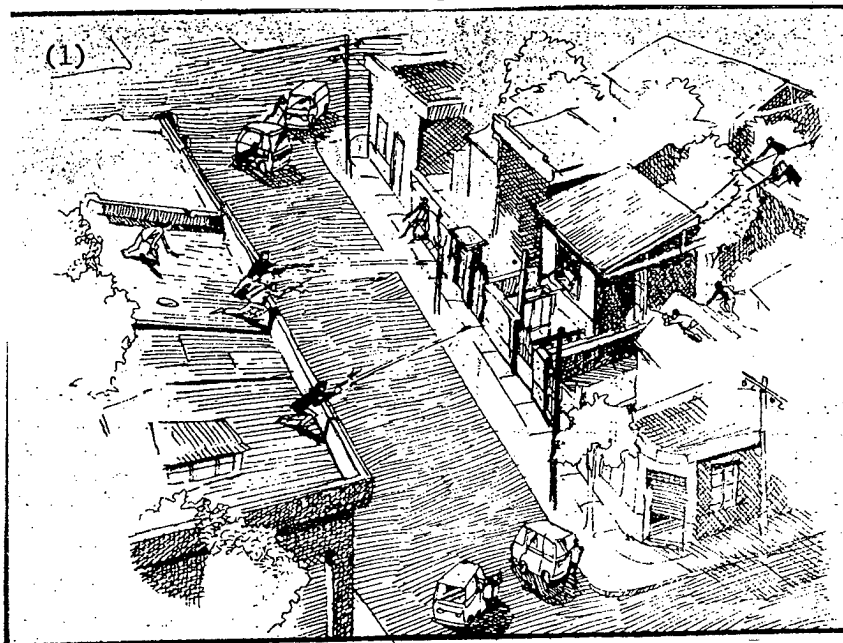


Diagram Captions:

1. The battle between terrorists and CNI agents lasted half an hour. The latter isolated the area and surrounded the premises, firing from different positions, as shown in the drawing.
2. The bodies of the seven terrorists were left in the positions shown in the sketch. Men and women were wearing jackets, jeans, and boots, and covered their heads with mountaineer berets.

Official Version Disputed

Santiago CAUCE in Spanish 22-28 Jun 87 pp 40-43

[Article by Francisco Herreros: "Seven Deaths in the Mouse Trap"]

[Text] It is in the events which occurred in the stormed premises on Pedro Donoso Street, that the many doubts and contradictions have cropped up most clearly, and that both the inconsistencies and irremediable lack of logic and sense in the official account are most exposed.

That in the infernal eternity of about 15 or 20 minutes, starting at 1725 hours on Tuesday, seven persons (four men and three women, all very young) were shot to death, and that they were inside the dwelling is unquestionable. But no more than that.

That this site was used as a safe house (or a barracks, according to the new terminology), and that a battle was waged there, with four spectral figures wounded by the attacking group, is a contrivance that not only cannot withstand the slightest analysis, but also conceals a mass execution of unprecedented cruelty.

DINACOS' official account avoids going into detail. It confines itself to describing the premises as "an FPMR safe house," and claiming that the security agents "were attacked with steady gunfire from automatic weapons," as a result of which "three of them were wounded, one seriously." The communique adds that "at least two terrorists" succeeded in escaping, and ends with the ritual description of "weaponry confiscated."

The official newspapers helped to support the hoax with background information attributed to anonymous "security sources." EL MERCURIO remarked that the agents were traveling in "four vehicles." The warning to surrender "was met with heavy fire from M-16 rifles and short-barreled weapons." In this account, three grenades reportedly thrown outside by the "extremists" appear. It agrees that three of them managed to escape, while those remaining "took shelter in a rear room while others fired from two rooms looking out onto Pedro Donoso Street, and from the building's hallway." According to EL MERCURIO, the dwelling was a "barracks house, that is, a site where the extremists remain just a few days awaiting instructions to carry out a terrorist act."

The story in LAS ULTIMAS NOTICIAS contributed a helicopter "which lit up the area with powerful searchlights," and three explosions "as if they were bombs." It implicated in the operation "security personnel, military, and both civilian and uniformed police."

A Genuine Mouse Trap

Nevertheless, both the official and the unofficial versions suffer from one essential inconsistency: Not only are they devoid of the slightest evidence to support them, but also everything that is available points to the hypothesis of the coldly conceived execution.

That building was neither a "safe house" nor a "barracks," nor a terrorist hideout, nor anything resembling such; simply because neither the size nor the features of the dwelling would allow it, but essentially because it was not rented nor occupied. It had been vacant and locked with padlocks since March, when its previous resident left, until at least midnight on Monday, as any objective, independent investigation could readily prove.

The dwelling, or rather the irregular layout of a group of old rooms and service areas separated by a winding, dark, hallway, occupies virtually all the narrow site (6 meters wide by 30 deep) of the property labeled No 582A Pedro Donoso Street, the latter located at the 3500 point of Recoleta, in the community of Conchali.

The front of the outside room, the only one with a window, is 8 steps (about 6 meters) from the street's brick wall, in a northerly direction; a space occupied by the small entry yard in which there is an old grape arbor. Toward the inside, the most prominent space is the zigzagging hallway whose capricious turns are determined by the two blocks of rooms flanking it. Both the hallway and the rooms compete fiercely for the 6 meters of width; so that none of them is more than 5 meters wide. The perimeter relating to the two side walls and the back is demarcated, or rather walled up by thick brick walls which do not leave the slightest opening through which to escape. It is illogical to think that this could have happened precisely in the section where the besiegers' fire was concentrated.

As one can observe, this is a genuine mouse trap of small size, which has access or open space only toward the north; and even in this case, it is closed off by the outer brick wall: exactly the opposite of what the notion of a "safe house" calls for.

Impossible Battle

Then the official account attempts to claim that there was a lengthy battle, lasting some 30 minutes, between 10 "terrorists" including the three who "escaped" and a large security contingent which converged on all four sides: all this in the 180 square meters of the property area. That is as absurd and untenable as imagining a tank battle inside a labyrinth. First, there is no (not a single) perforation or trace of a bullet fired from inside; none on the inside walls, nor on the outside brick wall, nor on the fronts of the houses opposite. On the other hand, in the opposite direction, they can be counted in the hundreds. The testimony from residents (and we shall return to that) also agrees on the unilaterality of the shots' direction.

Minister Cuadra described the criticism of the official account as "irresponsible," claiming that none of it was based on real facts. Now then, this circumstance alone is an incontrovertible fact, but it is not the only one, or the most important. The position and site on which the seven persons were shot down, indicated in each instance by extensive blood stains, are shown in the diagram. Those traces of blood would be impossible if the bodies had been moved as

corpses, as any medical student could attest; from which one infers that they were killed inside the dwelling and in the aforementioned location. But that doesn't explain how they entered.

The House Was Vacant

The main doubts and contradictions converge on this point, because, as has already been noted, there is a reasonable degree of certainty that the dwelling had been vacant since March, when it was left by its previous resident, identified as Daniel Tilleria, who was then traveling to Argentina.

This is maintained emphatically by his brother, Agustin, who occupies the adjacent dwelling on the left side, still in a northerly direction, separated by a thin brick wall. He expressed complete shock at the official account, claiming that he had rented his brother's dwelling a couple of months ago. "That is absolutely untrue. My brother's house has been vacant since he went to Argentina. Not only was it not rented, but it seems to me that, up until the time that I went to bed, about midnight on Monday, the house was empty and locked with three padlocks: one at the entry door, and two on the doors with access to the inside rooms."

This is an important detail, because as Tilleria himself has shown, the three padlocks appear to have been cut with a Napoleon explosive. Is it logical to assume that a cell of 10 terrorists which was holed up waiting for an operation invaded a property, blowing up the padlocks; and that this act went unnoticed by the resident of the adjoining dwelling, separated only by a thin brick wall?

The Witnesses Speak

Apart from this, the story that the dwelling in question was vacant appears to be supported and confirmed by Francisco Tilleria, the father of Daniel and Agustin, by the residents of the house on the right side, Mrs Hordelicia and Mrs Elcira, and by three sisters who live in the opposite house, labeled No 581, whose names they declined to give.

The testimony given to us by those seven persons agrees basically in the following respects: a. they claim that the dwelling in which the seven corpses showed up had been vacant until the night before the tragic incident; b. that they did not hear shots originating inside; and, c. that they did not hear either shouts or insults associated with a shooting skirmish or battle.

In short, about 1725 hours on Tuesday, they heard the warning to surrender on a bull-horn, and after a brief interval, a shooting that they describe as "infernal," which lasted between 15 and 30 minutes, depending on the subjective view of each. Other residents recount that, at the beginning of the shooting, women's voices were heard from inside, begging them not to kill them. But this is something that we have not yet proven.

Nor did we obtain an account of visual testimony, because, through the bull-horns, the residents were warned to remain inside the dwellings.

The Investigation That Was Not Made

How did the seven victims reach the inside of the dwelling?

This is precisely the point on which there should be concentration. Unfortunately, it is difficult to ascertain. As of the time that we toured the scene of the incident, nearly 48 hours after it occurred, and shortly after the National Guard had turned the house over to its owner, no official had shown up, not even the head of the 20th criminal court, the one authorized for this territorial jurisdiction. Nor was there any impression that the Homicide Brigade had undertaken, as would be fitting, to visit the scene of the incident, particularly in this case, with seven victims. Extremely important items of evidence certainly still remained on the site, such as the victims' clothing and the bullets with which they were killed, which we had occasion to photograph. Any eyeball inspection made by professionals would immediately draw as an inescapable conclusion the vacant status of the dwelling, both because of the thick coating of dust covering the old furnishings, and the lack of signs of life, such as leftover food, or use of essential services, such as a bathroom or kitchen; except for a bloodstained mattress which appeared in the outer room, the origin of which Agustin Tilleria cannot explain, and which was not there the night before.

If there was no battle and the house was vacant, what really happened? This is difficult to tell for certain; but the testimony gathered, the layout of the site, and the position of the bodies constitute records which essentially contradict the official version.

Key to Diagram:

1. Diagram of the site of the incident
2. Pedro Donoso Street
3. Front yard
4. Window
5. Mattress
6. Room
7. Bathroom
8. Kitchen
9. Dining room
10. Bedroom
11. Storage room
12. Agustin Tilleria's house

(2) ← CALLE PEDRO DONOSO →

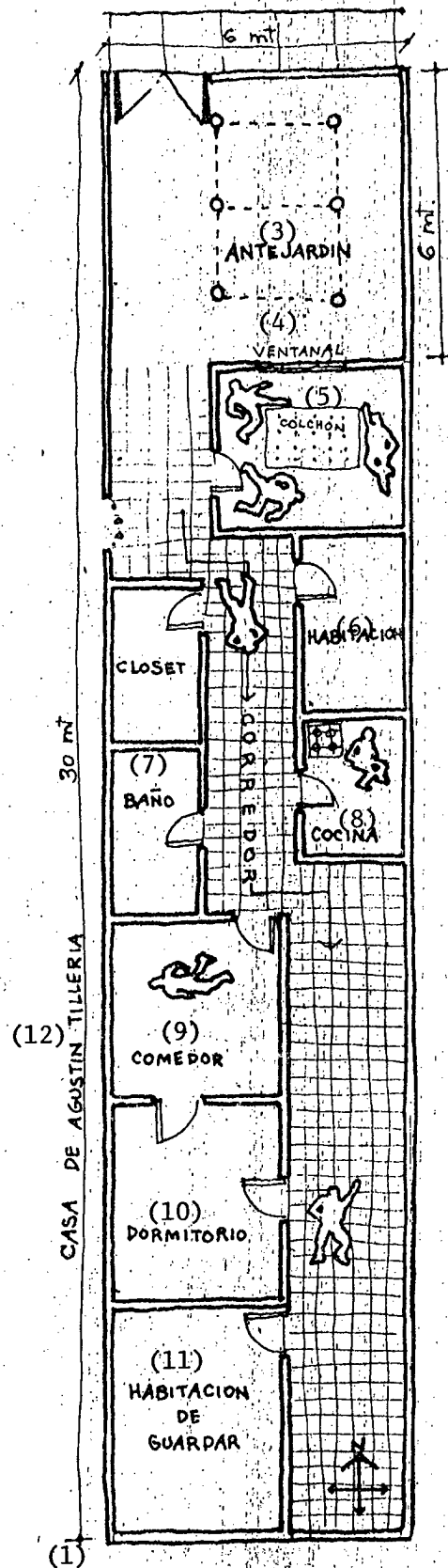


Diagrama del sitio del suceso.

2909
CSO: 3348/383

BARCO OUTLINES PROPOSED JUDICIAL REFORMS

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 22 May 87 pp 1A, 7B

["Text" of letter by President Virgilio Barco Vargas to the Supreme Court; no date given; first two paragraphs are EL TIEMPO introduction]

[Text] Today EL TIEMPO is publishing the text of the letter addressed by President Virgilio Barco Vargas to the Supreme Court in response to the memorandum sent to him by that body last 2 April.

As this newspaper has reported, Barco Vargas here announces revisions to the current Concordat with the Holy See, to the Constitution, and to legislation to grant budget autonomy to Congress and the judicial branch and to make changes in current jurisdictions.

To the Honorable Supreme Court,

Dr Juan Hernandez Saenz
Presiding Justice
This city,

Esteemed Justices,

As I had occasion to inform you in a recent communication, the government has been studying the important proposals relative to the judicial branch that were formulated by that high body in its letter of last 2 April. I will discuss the issues raised in that letter in the order in which they were mentioned.

1. Budget autonomy for the judicial branch.

The national government feels that the judicial branch must participate to a greater extent in the preparation and administration of its budget. [copy missing] constitutional form. In support of that last alternative, my advisers have pointed out to me that not even Congress, which is the only body in the Colombian state which can determine its own budget autonomously, is empowered to execute it.

In any case, we will submit for consideration by Congress during the next legislature suitable measures for satisfying the legitimate aspiration of both the judicial branch and Congress itself to administer their budgets.

2. Direct administration and management of the judicial profession by the judicial branch.

This is another of the honorable court's aspirations which the government shares completely. In fact, the functioning of the judicial profession, administered by that branch itself, is a constitutional mandate whose implementation has been delayed since 1945. Convinced of the obligatory nature and usefulness of that profession, this government exercised the powers granted by Law No 52 of 1984 when it issued Decree No 52 of this year. I am sure that implementation of the latter will substantially improve the efficiency of the administration of justice and provide adequate encouragement to the magistrates and judges of the republic.

But as the minister of justice pointed out to you in his letter dated 8 May, setting the machinery for the judicial profession in motion requires measures of an administrative nature whose implementation will take time. You can be certain that we will spare no effort to see that the judicial profession enjoys the support it requires for proper functioning.

3. Establishment of new divisions in some superior courts.

Now on its way through Congress from the House of Representatives to the Senate is draft Law No 208/86 (House of Representatives). That government bill is aimed at obtaining extraordinary powers to legislate on various crucial aspects of the administration of justice. The executive branch firmly intends to press for its passage during the next legislature. Article 1, paragraph a) of that law provides that we would be able "to establish, abolish, or combine courts and positions of judges and public prosecutors in the various areas and at the various levels of the administration of justice." That would make it possible to carry out the court's suggestions concerning the composition of the superior courts.

4. Redistribution of courts within the various judicial districts.

The court is entirely correct in its feeling that a more rational distribution of courts within the national territory is required. This is made necessary by the notable changes in the country's demographic structure and in the volume and nature of conflicts requiring a judicial solution which have occurred in recent years. Granting the extraordinary powers which I have just mentioned would enable the government to adopt those measures.

5. Establishment of new positions within the Supreme Court.

Like the Council of State, the Supreme Court should have a general secretariat. It is also essential to establish the position of assistant to the presiding justice. The minister of justice will take the necessary steps to see that those legitimate aspirations are satisfied. Perhaps one of those

officials could act as head of personnel and administration, but if not, that position should also be established.

For obvious reasons, I will refrain from mentioning the steps taken to ensure the safety of the members of the Supreme Court. But you can be absolutely certain that the arrangements required by the circumstances are in effect.

In addition, the government has been taking steps to strengthen criminal investigations and the Judicial Police. At the legal level, those efforts are taking concrete shape through issuance of the new Code of Criminal Procedure and Decree No 51 of 1987--"Whereby the Operation of the Technical Staff of the Judicial Police Is Organized"--trusting that those measures will have the effect of giving the criminal division the support it needs when acting as a court of instance.

6. Revised procedures.

Under this heading, the letter to which I am responding contains a number of suggestions concerning the operation of the trial divisions of the superior courts, elimination of the elective jurisdiction in labor cases, the use of tape recording devices to gather evidence, and an increase in the total interest required for an appeal for civil cassation. The government supports the court's suggestions in these matters and feels that it would be desirable to introduce many other changes aimed at expediting judicial procedures. On the basis of that attitude, it has asked Congress for authority to simplify those procedures, assign matters of voluntary jurisdiction to administrative authorities, establish systems for the resolution of disputes in which the intervention of judges is not compulsory--such as conciliation and arbitration--and permit the wider use of data processing and other modern technologies in the administration of justice. All of those important matters are covered in the bill which the government submitted to Congress last year and which, as I said above, it will resolutely push beginning on 20 July.

The court also asked that the necessary reforms be carried out "so that the court's civil cassation division will not continue to serve as a court of second instance in cases involving legal separation with respect to marriages performed according to the Catholic rite." This is an thoroughly logical reform. Except in genuinely extraordinary circumstances, the Supreme Court must not have functions unrelated to its very important function of guarding the integrity of the Constitution and ensuring the uniformity of jurisprudence through the cassation process. For that reason, it is not appropriate that Catholic marriage cases should fall within the court's jurisdiction, especially since that proceeding by way of appeal is not open to cases involving civil marriages.

However, the legal system which the court is very rightly criticizing in this instance is covered by article 9 of the Concordat entered into with the Holy See. Since, therefore, this is a matter covered by an international agreement, the Colombian state cannot abrogate it unilaterally. It will be necessary to seek a favorable opportunity to raise this question with the Apostolic See.

7. Urgent Material Needs of the Supreme Court.

I have asked the minister of justice to endeavor to satisfy quickly, either directly or through the ministry's revolving fund, the very well-founded requests made in your letter.

I trust that these explanations are acceptable to the court. And that this exchange of views will have the effect of strengthening the administration of justice, on behalf of whose dignity and effectiveness we will spare no efforts, seeing that the promotion of those qualities is one of this administration's fundamental tasks. I would like for the honorable justices of the Supreme Court to see things in that light.

Harmony among the various branches of power requires that they be treated equitably by the executive branch. That is what we are doing.

Cordially,

Virgilio Barco Vargas.

11798

CSO: 3348/356

RECENT CABINET CHANGES ANALYZED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 24 May 87 p 2B

[Article by Rodrigo Pardo; first paragraph is EL TIEMPO introduction]

[Text] The cabinet reshuffle marked the beginning of what could be the Barco administration's second phase, in which judicial problems will be of growing importance.

The cabinet changes introduced by President Barco last Sunday mark the start of the second phase of his administration. To some extent, the cabinet he had during his first 9 months was a transitional one.

The appointment of the new ministers, both in substance and in form, shows that Barco has introduced a few rules into the political process which differ from those in effect under recent administrations. This was seen in the reactions to last week's "crisis," since those reactions differed from the ones usually present in analyses concerning the equitable distribution of posts, the strengthening or weakening of former presidents, and the balance between technicians and politicians.

On the contrary, this time it was understood that the changes were made without consultations of any kind, that the DLN [National Liberal Directorate] had not been invited to the negotiating table, and that the "politicians" got the worst of it. No one was surprised at the young average age of the ministers or at the fact that most of them lacked the background possessed by those considered for ministerial posts in the past. No one doubted that the pattern of government and opposition was continuing in force, nor was there any surprise at the failure on the part of the "cabinet experts," who, after proclaiming almost daily for months that a ministerial crisis was imminent, had assured us 2 weeks ago that the crisis was "on hold."

But while President Barco can boast of having changed a few political customs during his first few months, those changes have not been without cost, the chief example being the delay in carrying out a number of government policies. So while it has been possible until now to consider that the government was in a period of adjustment, the phase now beginning is faced with public opinion that would not forgive it for spending more time establishing the pattern of

government and opposition, the balance between technicians and politicians, or relations between the government and the government party.

That seems to be the intention one can glimpse behind the rotations and changes in the cabinet: to consolidate the political adjustment needed for beginning to operate under the "new rules." The previous minister of government, Fernando Cepeda, was a theorist of the pattern of government and opposition. His successor, Cesar Gaviria, is the practical politician who must manage it. The administration had been saying previously that Congress was the forum par excellence for debates. After 20 July, we will see Gaviria Trujillo pushing government initiatives with the same energy that was used with the only bill the administration pushed in the previous legislature: the tax reform.

In the Barco administration's first phase, there were adjustments in the group of collaborators closest to the president. That group took institutional form as a "kitchen cabinet" consisting of people who occupied formal posts and who, to some extent, replaced the former "Sanhedrin." This implies alternation with respect to the first cabinet, in which the appointments had been based, as has been reiterated now and again, on "performance records" stored in a computer. Those records were used to make the best choice for each position. In coming months there will be teamwork, especially in drawing up the administration's overall political strategy, with participation by Cesar Gaviria, Fernando Cepeda, German Montoya, and Carlos Ossa and external support by some of the people from the former Sanhedrin.

On 20 July, President Barco will inaugurate the new session of Congress with an objective and unadorned report on the state of the nation. He will also have with him a development plan for study by both houses, a legislative package that has been under study by the Council of Ministers for 2 months, and a minister of government prepared to use his party's majorities. The second phase has begun with a cabinet which, in the strict sense, is the Barco administration's first. It is more capable than the previous one, and presumably it will not have to operate amid insistent rumors of a "crisis."

Military Before the Courts

The new minister of justice, Edmundo Lopez Gomez, has become one of the key men in the cabinet. First of all, because he has joined the circle of presidential collaborators who have changed ministries. Second, because he is the last "survivor" of the political class on the cabinet team. Third, because the agenda facing him is considered to be of vital importance, thus assuring him of resolute support by the executive branch. And fourth, because of the signs of conflict that have appeared with respect to the military.

Last week, for example, several issues involving the courts captured the attention of the media, and it can be predicted that the same is going to happen repeatedly in coming months. For one thing, it is felt that mechanisms for strengthening the judicial branch will be put in motion. For another, the process of peace has reached the point at which the courts are a fundamental determinant of the degree to which it will be possible to take "a step

forward" in incorporating FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] into institutional life. So far, it is apparently felt that this issue may cause friction between the military and the government itself.

As far as strengthening the courts is concerned, the president has sent a letter to Juan Hernandez Saenz, presiding judge of the Supreme Court, in which he announces the government's proposals with respect to the seven points raised by the latter in a previous letter to the president and aimed at improving the instruments, organization, and funds of the judicial branch.

Barco's letter was regarded as an attempt to improve relations with the court based on the existing points of agreement between the executive and judicial branches, but with the understanding that differences exist.

Resignation and Approval

As far as peace is concerned, there were three events last week which tended to strengthen the institutional instruments for clearing up some of the mutual accusations made by some participants in the process. They all have implications affecting the military forces. Chief among those events was the approval by the Office of the Attorney General of the objection by Jaime Pardo Leal, the Patriotic Union's former presidential candidate, to allowing the military prosecutor, Major General Antonio Jose Gonzalez Prado, to investigate the Patriotic Union's charges against members of the military forces. Maj Gen Gonzalez Prado resigned his post, and the charges passed into civilian hands.

Next was the publication of statements, in an interview with EL TIEMPO, by the national director of criminal investigations, Eduardo Lozano Tovar, who said that "in some crimes, the participation of members of the Armed Forces (Army and police) is obvious." Those statements brought separate letters from the Army commander, General Oscar Botero Restrepo; the director of police, General Jose Guillermo Medina Sanchez; and the director of the DAS [Administrative Department of Security], General Miguel Alfredo Maza Marquez, all of whom asked Lozano Tovar to substantiate his charges, thus throwing the ball back into his court.

Lastly, and for the third time, the Supreme Court again appointed the Special Tribunal established by Decree No 750 to investigate crimes "that cause social upheaval." It had accepted former Minister Jose Manuel Arias Carrizosa from the previous list of three candidates, and this time Alfredo Vazquez Carrizosa and Luis Carlos Giraldo Marin were appointed. The presence on the tribunal of Former Minister of Foreign Affairs Vazquez is considered very important in that as chairman of the Permanent Committee on Human Rights, he is familiar with a large number of complaints and cases needing investigation. Moreover, at the recent "Fifth Forum for Life," Vazquez upheld the need to establish a tribunal with characteristics similar to those stipulated in Decrees No 750 and No 780.

11798

CSO: 3348/356

PUSC, PLN DISSENSION JEOPARDIZES TAX REFORM PACKAGE

San Jose RUMBO CENTROAMERICANO in Spanish 10-14 Apr 87 p 6

[Article by Ricardo Lizano]

[Text] There is no getting around it. No matter what efforts are made, the tax reform bill sent by the Executive Power to the Legislative Assembly will face opposition from the Social Christian Unity Party (PUSC) and its passage will inevitably be delayed until August.

Not only PUSC deputies share this conviction but also several legislators of the National Liberation Party (PLN), some of whom are even glad that the bill should meet this fate. This is because, although publicly they refrain from criticizing the taxes proposed by the government, in private they do not hide their nonconformity since many of the taxes would affect them directly.

Other PLN legislators believe that only direct political negotiation between President Oscar Arias and Rafael Angel Calderon could resolve the conflict that has arisen. This was practically what was proposed by Alfonso Estevanovich on 2 April after presiding over the Financial Affairs Committee in the absence of its head Fernando Volio.

The problems began the very moment the bill was sent up for consideration on the floor of the legislature. Either out of political calculation or because of clumsy handling the document did not reach Congress until 24 February, many days after Finance Minister Fernando Naranjo had announced to the country the government's intention of imposing the new taxes. Publication in the official gazette was also delayed, and finally, on 17 March it reached the Financial Affairs Committee, where the first to propose ten motions were the PLN lawmakers.

Immediately thereafter the PUSC legislators presented another 30 motions with the obvious purpose of "torpedoing" the bill. As time went by the matter grew more complicated and the 30 motions became 300, thus making almost impossible the quick passage wanted by the Executive Power which has an urgent need of new income to reduce the fiscal deficit and thereby facilitate negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

This atmosphere of confrontation still prevails, and now that the government realizes that the PUSC can defeat the notorious package, there has been a change in the conduct of government officials, including Oscar Arias himself, who has tried to approach some of the opposition leaders. Although it was made public that the purpose of the meeting of ex-presidents Mario Echandi and Jose Joaquin Trejos with the president at the presidential residence on 6 April was to discuss the Peace Plan for Central America, the fact of the matter is that the subject of tax reform did not go unmentioned.

At the same time, the finance minister has met with PUSC deputies and the interior minister Rodrigo Arias and has explored other ways of approaching the PUSC. The president's brother and deputy Carlos Monge Rodriguez, a figure very close to Calderon Fournier, are known to be in communication with each other. Both played a very important part in opening the dialogue between the two leaders.

However, any understanding that may be reached will have no effect until after April. In May a new ordinary session will begin, during which it will be very difficult to discuss the bill because there are about 140 items ahead of it on the agenda. Consequently it will not be until August, when another extraordinary session begins, that the Executive Power will be able to present the tax reform bill to Congress on a priority basis.

In this situation there is no doubt that the PUSC has gotten its own way. At least on this occasion the government proposal has been defeated without the PUSC members having to pay the price of an obstructionist image such as was pinned on them on previous occasions. Quite to the contrary, tax reform faces wide national opposition, as was shown in a poll by the Interdisciplinary Development Consultancy (CIO) that was published by LA NACION a few days ago. Since that document was published the PUSC members have used it as an argument to justify their conduct against the PLN.

In any event, within the PLN party there is no consensus, and furthermore some deputies do not have the slightest interest in speeding up passage of the bill, although when the time comes they will probably toe the party line. But this will not happen in the short term. For the time being the "package" is buried, and reviving it requires not only changes but also many hours of negotiation between the government and the opposition.

12856/9190
CSO: 3248/302

MASSIVE PRODUCE SPOILAGE DUE TO PACKAGING, SHIPPING METHODS

Havana MONCADA in Spanish Apr 87 pp 38-40

[Article by Casilda Pereira]

[Text] There is quite a difference between what is grown and what is consumed by the population. Those who buy produce for the household are well aware of this, especially when they have had to dive into a crate of rotten potatoes or stinking peppers and tomatoes. Nor is it a secret to those who have had to wait for a bus at a busstop located next to what we know as a produce stand.

We must stop and think seriously about what price the country is paying for what is thrown to the pigs, in the best of cases. In Arroyo Naranjo we found small sales outlets whose managers claimed that the pig plan trucks hardly ever come by, so they have to throw rotten produce in the garbage in small amounts, risking fines.

Inspection reports on file at the Havana Pig Plan indicate that in Bauta last year a total of 17,577 tons of decomposed produce was seized. Of that total, 9,715 tons was picked up by the plan's vehicles, and 7,862 tons arrived on the vehicles of other enterprises. Most of the produce came from the city of Havana, a lesser amount from the province.

In the short time that we spent at the pigfeed plant in San Pedro, Bauta, we saw one truck after another come to dump their loads. Since the influx is greater than daily needs, there is a large storage yard where the excess material is deposited, to be used later.

One of the trailers that arrived was full of sacks of yuca that had come from Guantanamo. The yuca had been seized by storage authorities before being distributed, because it had arrived in poor condition. How much was the shipment worth? Add it up: gasoline, transportation depreciation, fertilizer, wages paid. A peasant who was present told me that the absurdity was not that it had come from so far away, but that no one took the necessary steps to ensure the safe transportation of this type of cargo. Then, after discussing the sun damage sustained by harvested crops and criticizing the amount of time the produce remained in the field, as well as the transportation schedule, he emphasized:

"Why are the bananas they sell always tasteless? They cut the bananas green, they fail to protect them from the sun, they toss them around out in the field and then on the truck, and throw them around again when they unload the bananas at the outlet. That is why they rot before they ripen, and they get bruised. Look at them when you buy them; they're all spotted and bruised."

Last December a huge load of tomatoes came in, and a large part of the shipment was confiscated. A few workers at the stand were questioned about the matter, and they indicated that sometimes the prices do not correspond to the quality, and they do not sell. By the time the representative of the retail enterprise, the only one who can lower the price, comes to the outlet, it is already too late. The mechanical damage already sustained causes them to decompose quickly, and a few rotten ones cause the rest to spoil as well.

At a stand in Arroyo Naranjo, I bought tomatoes priced at 15 cents a pound. I took them to Storage Center No. 8 in that municipality to inquire about the disparity between the price and the quality. The economic chief there took out an instrument called a calibrator, consisting of a small metal plate with a circular hole in the center. She placed the tomatoes on the calibrator one by one, and since they did not go through the hole, she declared that they were grade 2, and therefore the price was correct.

She immediately referred to a document issued by the State Price Committee and read: "A tomato shall be considered grade 2 if it is healthy, clean, fresh, and green to the point of ripeness, with a diameter of not less than 4.5 centimeters and not more than 6.5 centimeters." Every product has its specifications. But there is no need to invent a calibrator to gauge size so precisely. That can be determined much more accurately by simply examining it carefully; that tomato did meet the minimum diameter standard, but it failed all the other criteria for that category.

A worker at the Coco Peredo cooperative in Melena del Sur told me that in late December, around 200 quintals of tomatoes spoiled there because they had no boxes to pack them in. Many managers at the places I visited complained about the availability of boxes in their units and the lack of space for storing them. At Unit 303-30 in Zone 7 of Old Havana, located on San Juan de Dios between Villegas and Monserrate, there is enough room, but too many boxes accumulated. There too, 15 large cans sat full of rotten tomatoes, covered by a swarm of insects.

The stench became unbearable when the truck from the Havana Pig Plan arrived. Those vehicles do not have a closed bed for transporting this type of shipment. The solid part stayed on board, but the liquid ran down Calle San Juan de Dios, and the neighbors, seeing the photographer, begged him in unison to help them solve their plight. On 13 January, Public Health fined the manager of that establishment for the prevailing lack of hygiene. The management of the Havana Pig Plan and of the brigade assigned to pick up the load stated that there are plans to change the beds of these trucks so that they can be closed, but as for the priority given to the places to be visited by them, that is up to the Retail Enterprise, which determines their route. Nonetheless, they reported that one unit is supposed to take care of two municipalities; and in April and December, given the large amount of produce

that lies rotting, one is not enough. The schedule established for these units, which are closed from 1300 to 1630 hours, conspires against them.

There is no room to give in this field-transportation-produce market chain, or at the pig plan units. With this article, we are merely endeavoring to call attention to the existing problem.

[Box, p 40]

Close Scrutiny

One good solution would be to eliminate the small sales outlets and to open up more produce markets in each municipality. These markets, where one could buy fresh watercress and parsley and good papayas, would be open all day long, and even at night. This would reduce the amount of time the produce spent exposed to the sun, facilitate the pick-up of spoiled produce, and allow for the produce to be processed before being sold; today the goods are sold dirty, and one must sort through an entire bin of rotten fruit or vegetables to find any good ones, which makes for poor sales and accelerates the deterioration of the goods.

Other measures must be taken with respect to the transportation of produce; bananas used to be transported covered, each bunch in its leaves. I propose that a study be done to determine whether it is really necessary to bring yuca from the eastern provinces, and whether watercress should be cut in the morning, transported at noon, and sold at 1900 hours at a stand which turns into a pilot the next day.

It is well worth thinking seriously not about the quantity that is produced, but about the cost of what is not consumed.

8926

CSO: 3248/345

HAVANA SLUM NEIGHBORHOODS DESCRIBED

Havana MONCADA in Spanish May 87 pp 42-43

[Article by Jesus Barreto: "The People of the Poor Barrio: An Image from the Past that Refuses to Go Away"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] The character of the barrio is imparted by its residents, and its reputation is a legacy passed on from one generation to the next. Sometimes this unfortunate reputation dates back 60 years, and has been renewed and updated in appearance.

These places are distinguished by the stereotypical presence in them of some adverse social ingredients that sustain and stimulate this microworld, which is incompatible with our society.

/Las Yaguas, La Corea, Llegay Pon, and El Fanguito,/ to cite just a few examples in the capital, served as a refuge for many poor, indigent people, as well as the dregs who built their shanties out of scraps of cardboard, wood, and zinc, with dirt floors.

In 1962, the Revolutionary Government dismantled /Las Yaguas,/ and its residents built new homes in the district of /Jesus Menendez,/ municipality of Boyeros, thanks to the efforts of the Higher Council of Urban Reform specifically for these individuals.

Nearly 30 years later, however, this place, which is also known as /Miraflores 250,/ is regarded as highly troublesome by the National Revolutionary Police.

So why do these vestiges of the past persist? More than 15 studies conducted in several different provinces sought to answer this question. The studies were debated by social workers and experts of the Federation of Cuban Women (FMC) at the 2nd National Seminar on Social Work.

Who Lives in These Barrios?

The criminal feels more secure and fulfilled living among his own kind. His way of thinking, his customs, his bad habits, his syncretic beliefs, his lack

of education, and his illegal way of life fit only in a community where individuals with serious criminal records reside.

His offspring grow up in those surroundings, and some do not escape the adverse effects. Thus, they become teenagers and young adults (of both sexes) who suffer from behavioral disorders. And this, in fact, is the setting in which the generations of the barrio pass the torch to each other.

While some children wear their school uniforms, others, thanks to the negligence of their parents, run around barefoot, engaging in whatever mischief strikes their fancy.

Figures provided by Francisca Vazquez in her paper on this neighborhood indicate that more than 60 teenagers and young adults go to neither school nor work, for two main reasons: "We don't like to study." "The jobs we are offered don't interest us."

With reference to the barrio of /Altamira/ in Santiago de Cuba, Evelina Ruiz pointed out in her paper that 54 percent of the 31 minors she studied have behavioral disorders, and 38 percent have been committed to reeducation centers.

The possibility of finding employment for them is limited by the fact that many of them are minors without a trade, and the young adults, in particular, lack job skills.

Of 30 families in /Altamira,/ 31 percent have fathers in prison, and 94 percent consist of children living with just their mother.

In Camaguey, Estrella Montane studied the barrio of /Belen,/ which stretches to the south of the provincial capital along the highway to Vertientes.

The same phenomenon can be observed here. Of a population of 996, 27 are minors who have dropped out of school and need scholarships, behavior schools, and vocational schools.

Montane showed in her study that 11 children were out on the streets because their parents are alcoholics or are in prison, or because there is no love in the home. She also found 37 families in this district whose education did not go beyond primary school, and whose children are not in school, either.

This pattern of social problems is repeated in all the papers debated at the Seminar, and shows a stable set of causes explaining the persistence of the problem-ridden barrios.

An Endemic Ill?

The social change that has taken place in Cuba leaves little room for antisocial attitudes to survive. Whereas in the past the "villas miserias" [slums] were built on foundations of poverty, unemployment, the lack of schooling, and the absence of community health programs, today the array of

social services includes schools, polyclinics, family doctors, specialists, the cultural movement, and political and mass organizations.

Working to transform attitudes in human beings is a patient task that sometimes does not yield the desired results because of insufficient ideological and political influence.

A summary of the studies' conclusions advocates greater social action. In these barrios, the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution (CDR) and the FMC operate under difficult circumstances, but in spite of that, there are revolutionary individuals willing to contribute to change.

The objective economic limitations make it difficult to overcome the overcrowding and the promiscuity in these neighborhoods, an effort which would serve to clean up the social situation.

Residents believe that plans for social projects should include a few recreational parks, street and sidewalk repairs, cultural houses, folk troupes, and behavior schools.

To make matters worse, in some of these communities there is no shortage of the popular centers where alcoholic beverages are sold, while there is no place where youths can spend their free time.

Social assistance would improve the financial situation of certain single mothers who claim not to be able to afford school uniforms or food for their small children.

Many of these neighborhoods have no cafes, stores, or regular newspaper deliveries.

And of course, a greater prophylactic, preventive, and police effort must be made to neutralize these antisocial manifestations.

8926

CSO: 3248/345

BRIEFS

NUCLEAR PLANT SECURITY FORCES--A Nuclear Detachment is being organized in Cienfuegos, to be made up of youths from the Ministry of the Interior (MININT) who will guard and protect the nuclear power plant that is being built there. The detachment will be responsible for the physical protection of the project during construction and after the first reactor comes on line in 1990. From then on, the nuclear security guards, supported by very sophisticated detection devices, will provide physical scientific protection with 100 percent efficiency. Near the plant, construction is underway on the nuclear city, where 10,000 workers will live. Marshaling workers and technicians, 69 Physical Protection Committees have been organized, as well as a Vigilance and Protection Corps to guard the plant. This group is protecting the construction of the plant, preventing access by those who violate the protection system, and guarding against any criminal activity. [Text] [Havana MONCADA in Spanish Feb 87 p 26] 8926

CSO: 3248/345

EL SALVADOR

NEW MILITARY COMMANDERS TAKE UP DUTIES

San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 8 Jun 87 pp 11, 49

[Text] Tomorrow the new commanders of the First Infantry Brigade, with headquarters in San Salvador; the Fifth Infantry Brigade, with headquarters in San Vicente; and the Second Military Detachment, with headquarters in Sensuntepeque, will assume their new duties.

Col Oscar Campos Amaya has been appointed to head the First Brigade, Col Carlos Guzman Aguilar has been appointed to the command in San Vicente, and Col Hector Heriberto Hernandez to that in Sensuntepeque.

The chiefs of the General Staff of the Armed Forces, Gen Adolfo O. Blandon and Col Mauricio Hernandez, will preside at the ceremonies tomorrow, it has been officially announced.

In addition, Col Benjamin Ramos has already assumed command of the Artillery Brigade in San Juan Opico.

These appointments are of special importance because the Army is preparing a new offensive against terrorism in the zones to which these commanders, who are specialists in counterinsurgency, have been assigned.

The ceremonies tomorrow will be the first in which Colonel Hernandez has participated as second in command of the General Staff.

5157

CSO: 3248/340

'TERRORIST PLAN,' RESURGENCE OF STUDENT GROUP COINCIDE

San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 18 Jun 87 pp 7, 38

[Text] In reporting receipt of a threat said to be from a group of university students, the Armed Forces have noted a strange coincidence in the discovery of an FMLN terrorist plan and the reappearance of the Maximiliano Martinez Brigade, following several years of silence.

A statement issued by the Armed Forces Press Committee (COPREFA) said that "Documents seized from the FMLN contain a clear outline of the goals of a plan for a revolt designed to step up mass violence and urban terrorism."

This plan, the COPREFA added, "sets forth the need to counteract the international recognition of the democratic process in El Salvador and the effective observance of human rights and respect for basic freedoms, through false testimony, provocation of the security bodies and activities designed to create martyrs who can be exploited for propaganda purposes."

The statement went on to say that "Curiously enough, after a number of years of silence, a timely communique from the Maximiliano Hernandez Martinez Brigade has surfaced, supporting the development of this plan, the FMLN and its front organizations and 'confirming its public charges.'"

Also, the Armed Forces have appealed to the International Red Cross and the Catholic Church, bodies with which it has always cooperated, asking for a joint guarantee of the lives of the individuals threatened by the "ESA" while investigations are being pursued to identify its members and turn them over to the courts.

At the same time, the Armed Forces reassured the people of El Salvador, just as the minister of defense, Gen Eugenio Vides Casanova, had done on 7 May, of the determination to eliminate the death squads.

The Armed Forces also urged any individual having information which might lead to the identification of members of the terrorist groups to report it to the nearest authority.

This same statement also deplored the activities of the death squads, "whether they be ultraleftist or ultrarightist."

It also said that the advance of the democratic process and respect for human rights in our country have been recognized on the level of such organizations as the UN, the OAS, the church, friendly governments and others.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION MOVES TO BOOST COFFEE PRODUCTION

San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 18 Jun 87 pp 7, 43

[Text] The Economic and Agriculture Commission of the Legislative Assembly issued an opinion yesterday approving the proposed Temporary Law to Promote Coffee Cultivation, presumably designed to encourage the planting and replanting of coffee trees to increase production.

The draft approved was harshly criticized recently by the ARENA Party, which termed it deceitful to attempt to improve domestic coffee production while maintaining the unconstitutional decree which created the INCAFE, the state body which manages the marketing of the product without taking into account the interests of its legitimate owners, the coffee growers.

The draft submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock calls for providing the coffee growers with free seeds, seedlings and coffee plants in order to encourage the establishment and reestablishment of coffee plantings so to increase production and productivity in the coffee-growing sector.

Thanks to this law, the government hopes that coffee plantings can be brought up to the production level prior to 1979, a goal which some of the coffee growers consulted found most laughable.

When members of the Economy and Agriculture Commission were asked why liberating the marketing of coffee was not considered as a means of encouraging production, they said that the superpackage of laws involves relations between certain laws and others. It was also mentioned that the Incentives for Producers Law, covering coffee, corn, etc., is also under study.

These sources added that the government is also taking the provisions of the Income Tax Law, "which calls for lower contributions as production increases," into account.

On this detail, the Economy and Agriculture Commission has already provided the representatives of the ANEP, ASI and Chamber of Commerce with information, and they have asked for 15 days in which to respond with their opinions of this draft law. "The commission is awaiting the comments of the trade-union organizations before issuing an opinion in this regard," they said.

Support for the IRA

This same commission issued an opinion in favor of the redrafting of Decree 505 issued by the Government Junta in 1980, which authorized the Supply Regulation Institute (IRA) to obtain credit from the Central Bank for the purchase of those products it regulates up to a maximum of 150 million colones. The redrafting would increase the amount of the credit for this purpose to 175 million colones.

The draft provides that financing will be for 1 year, and that an increase can be approved if it is obtained through the purchase of bonds.

This amount of credit will enable the IRA to carry out the functions entrusted to it more efficiently, they say.

The increase in capital for the IRA operations was justified on the basis of the increase in the production costs of the farmers who sell their products to the IRA.

On the other hand, and with regard to the complaints of mismanagement of basic products by IRA employees, the Christian Democratic deputies said that it will be necessary to revise the system of marketing products in detail to see how the operations of that state body can be improved "so as to avoid continuing to make these adjustments which have never benefited the state."

None of the deputies wanted to discuss the fraudulent sales of milk by the IRA on the market, or the many charges of corruption made by the public against the IRA officials.

Monetary System Changes

The Economy and Agriculture Commission also approved changes in the monetary system in order to establish sanctions for officials who violate the Monetary Law.

In addition to the other penalties the decree provides for officials, fines ranging between 1,000 and 100,000 colones are provided, depending on the crime, or double the amount of the quantity involved in the commission of the crime.

It was stated that the fines imposed by the earlier decree on those violating or infringing the Monetary System Law were not as large.

The draft is contained in the superpackage submitted by Duarte on 1 June.

5157

CSO: 3248/340

FORMER MINISTERS MOVE TO FORM NEW POLITICAL PARTY

Exploration of Possibilities

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Jun 87 p 27

[Text]

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada,
June 7, Cana

THREE ministers who resigned from Grenada's two-year old coalition government recently are testing the ground to form a new political party.

But government leaders do not appear worried, describing the three as a spent political force and saying the only real threat to the ruling party being re-elected would be posed by former prime minister Eric Gairy's labour party.

George Brizan, Francis Alexis, and Tillman Thomas resigned from the Grenada government April 13 citing differences on economic and labour policies.

Brizan says he expects that "as our activities continue and expand that a political organisation would grow out of it".

Brizan, a former Education Minister, and Alexis were leaders of two moderate groups which joined the older Grenada National Party (GNP) of Prime Minister Herbert Blaise to form the New National Party (NNP) for the 1984 general elections.

The NNP won all but one of the 15 parliamentary seats in the elections but its majority is now reduced to 9-6 following defections to the ranks of the opposition.

Brizan, Alexis, and Thomas have been using a series of public meetings around the country to explain their resignations and to judge public response to their popularity.

"The people who support the three resigned ministers constitute the most powerful political elements in the country today and this is going to grow from strength to strength," said Brizan, who appears to be spokesman.

According to the charismatic and popular Brizan, the proposed party would be the only alternative to take Grenada into the 21st century.

The ex-ministers recently opened an office in the city aimed at coordinating their political work, as well as launched a new paper **The Grenada Tribune** to promote their activities.

Additionally, they have formed a shadow cabinet with the other three opposition members to monitor the performance of Blaise's Government.

Brizan who is tipped to lead the proposed party is to look after Finance, Trade, Industry, and Planning which are portfolios held by Blaise, the ailing 69-year old veteran leader.

He would also be responsible for Tourism, Grenada's second most important industry after agriculture. Brizan held the tourism portfolio during 1984-87 before he was shifted to Education.

Alexis who is emerging as the number two man is the shadow Minister for Legal Affairs, and Foreign Affairs- portfolios held by Ben

Jones who is widely regarded as Blaize's deputy.

Also included in Alexis' portfolios are Local Government, Community Development, and National Security.

Thomas who served as Junior Minister for Legal Affairs while Alexis was the substantive Minister is given the task of monitoring Education, Information, Culture, Youth and Sports, and Carriacou and Petit Martinique Affairs.

Government officials have accused their former colleagues of embarking on "politics of confrontation" similar to the tactics used by the marxist leaders who toppled former Prime Minister Eric Gairy in a 1979 coup.

This was prompted by a recent visit made by the three to the St George's General hospital which government opposed on the grounds that it was done outside of the normal visiting hours.

Prime Minister Blaize said it is significant that while they were with the Government, the ex-ministers made no attempt to make an official visit to the hospital.

He contended that the answer could be found in the 1973 political disturbances.

That was when six members of the radical New Jewel Movement (NJM) including slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop "travelled to Grenville with the expressed intention of seizing the Grenville police station as their first move to bring down the then government."

The trio have dismissed the charge referring to a 1974 inquiry into the disturbances by a group headed by retired Jamaican Chief Justice Sir Herbert Duffus which came up with a different finding.

The Duffus report concluded that "there was no credible evidence to support the alleged rumour... that the six men or anyone else had conspired to take over the state of Grenada on Sunday, November 18, 1973."

Public Utilities Minister Dr Keith Mitchell who is also NNP's General Secretary has written off his former colleagues as political failures who would not be trusted by the electorate.

He states that the trio have virtually "killed themselves out" since the population is beginning to see them as power-hungry persons similar to the 1979-83 ill-fated revolutionary leaders.

Mitchell said the Government would concentrate on opening new projects and providing job opportunities for Grenadians because it was convinced that the ex-ministers did not stand a chance at the polls.

Instead, he said, the elections would be a straight fight between NNP and the labour party of Gairy who fancies his chances amidst the fragmentation of the moderate groups.

Mitchell is optimistic that NNP would win the elections since Gairy, whose rule was plagued by charges of harassment of political opponents and an obsession with Unidentified flying Objects (UFOs) would not be able to win the confidence of the electorate.

"Gairy has a serious problem of convincing people he is going to be a good leader, and Gairy's traditional support in the agricultural sector is dwindling," he remarks.

Although Gairy picked up 36 percent of the popular votes in the last elections, Brizan says the ex-Prime Minister could be handled at the forthcoming polls.

"I know what his strength is. He would have a problem with numbers in terms of support. In an electorate of about 65,000, I think Gairy could only boast right now of an optimum of about 14,000," he says.

"That is the most he can get. He does not pose a threat. His base has been eroded over the last two-and-a-half adds."

Brizan Expectations

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 10 Jun 87 p 17

[Text]

ST GEORGE'S, Tuesday (CANA) — Former Grenada Education Minister George Brizan says he expects a new political party being formed by him and two other ex-government ministers to be launched before year-end.

He made the statement Sunday night shortly after the three held the final in a series of islandwide public meetings to explain their recent resignations from the two-year-old coalition government.

Brizan, former Legal Affairs Minister Dr Francis Alexis and his

one-time deputy Tillman Thomas resigned from the government mid-April citing differences with its labour and economic policies.

Brizan told CANA that things were taking shape as regards the formation of the party and that many people were coming forward and committing themselves to working for the proposed party.

"I would say that the evolution (of the party) is moving quite rapidly at the moment. People are responding. From now on we would be getting down to hard village work," he said.

/13046

CSO: 3298/256

NEW NNP ORGAN RUNS 'SCATHING' ATTACKS ON EX-MINISTERS

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 24 Jun 87 p 44

[Text]

ST GEORGE'S (CANA) — If the newspaper published by Grenada's New National Party (NNP) government is anything to go by, ex-ministers Francis Alexis, George Brizan and Tillman Thomas are the administration's biggest enemies.

In the past two months, every issue of the *National* has scathingly attacked the three men who resigned from government in mid-April, saying they disagreed with Prime Minister Herbert Blaize's economic and labour policies.

The *National* even ran a series of cartoons picturing Brizan, Alexis and Thomas as being similar to the leftist politicians who staged a successful coup in 1979 and ran the island until their 1983 overthrow.

The paper has also repeatedly warned the nation against following

"Brizanomics" — a word it coined to refer to the economic policies being advocated by Brizan, an ex-Education Minister and economist.

Brizan is tipped to become the leader of a party expected to be formed by the parliamentary opposition to challenge the NNP in the next elections, due by March 1990.

In a June radio broadcast, Prime Minister Herbert Blaize referred to Brizan and his two associates as "three blind mice," while Public Utilities Minister, Dr Keith Mitchell, has been calling them mad men.

Alexis had served as Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs while Thomas was Junior Minister for Legal Affairs.

However, supporters of Alexis, Brizan and Thomas refer to them as the "three wise men" in

letters sent to local newspapers, praising their decision to quit the government, at a time when it announced plans to sharply reduce the civil service.

The trio have kept up a heavy attack on the government, both inside Parliament and during public meetings, giving what analysts say are embarrassing insights into government affairs.

They recently reported the sale last year of a government-owned plane to state-run Grenada Airways, which they said was resold without the funds being accounted for.

It was quickly followed by reports of the government approaching the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to probe the reported sale of the aircraft to an American company.

The three also reported on feuding within the NNP which was formed by three moderate political parties to contest the 1984 elections. The three were Blaize's older Grenada National Party (GNP), The National Democratic Party (NDP) of Brian and Alexis' Grenada Democratic Movement (GDM).

The ex-ministers have accused the ailing 69-year-old Blaize of being autocratic and of using the NNP "to pass the GNP through the back-door."

/13046

CSO: 3298/256

PAPER DISCUSSES NNP DISSENTERS, CHARGES OF DRUG LINKS

St Georges GRENADA GUARDIAN in English 8 May 87 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text] The guerrilla warfare now being waged by former Cabinet Ministers George Brizan and Francis Alexis against the remnants of the Blaize Administration has many who supported the NNP hanging their heads in shame.

And well they might. For these two deserters have shown that they have no respect for the dignity of Parliament or the ethics of Cabinet, no honour - not even a 'criminal' code for dealing with former fellow political felons in Cabinet - nor, indeed, any respect for public intelligence.

Not satisfied with the record-low they set for Parliamentary debates as they strove to humiliate their former political leader during the last two sittings of the Lower House, these two renegades and their side-kick, Tillman Thomas, have now embarked on a stool-pigeon crusade of "spilling-the-beans" in a vain attempt to exonerate themselves of complicity in atrocities meted out on Grenadians by the NNP while they themselves were at the very helm of Government.

Their newest gambit is to "expose" a former Cabinet colleague of flying-in that most dangerous of dangerous drugs - cocaine.

All Grenadians with ears to hear heard rumours to this effect. What we want to find out is when did Brizan and Alexis first know about the alleged ministerial drug peddling - after they left Government and no longer had full access to the investigative machinery of the police and Customs Authority?

Surely before, because they have been accusing this minister at their meetings of driving to airplanes' ramps and driving off with uncustomed goods - something he has not done to our knowledge for the last few weeks.

We hold no brief for the delinquent minister. At the same time one must condemn 'ratting' on others for the sole purpose of saving one's skin - political or otherwise - as a reprehensible trait not to be condoned especially in politicians on whose integrity the very future of our nation lies.

Brizan and Alexis have prostituted the privileges and trust conferred on them by the foreign country which installed the NNP in power.

Today, business men are blaming the U.S. for "putting that kind of people there." Did not some of the same businessmen, too, want them there? Did not some churches as well arrange during the elections campaign to have Brizan address their followers? Did not one church on the death of Brizan's father pay so much tribute to the old man's contributions while he lived that the life-long dedication of men like J.W. Fletcher and John Radix seemed to pale into insignificance?

Yes. A lot to be ashamed of; a lot to regret.

/13046

CSO: 3298/256

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT-UNION DISPUTE--Belle Vue, Mt. Reuil farm workers, among others, are bitterly protesting Government's interference with their meagre wages. They are complaining that Union dues are being deducted from their fortnightly earnings for a Union with which they have absolutely no connection. The only excuse given by Government's Authority connected to the farms is that the instruction came from Dr. Francis Alexis, former Minister of Labour in the NNP Government. The workers are already paying dues to the Grenada Manual, Maritime and Intellectual Workers Union (GMMIWU) through its Union Office. GUARDIAN deplores and condemns this socialistic Communistic principle. We feel that all workers must have a Union of their choice, and any deductions from their earnings must receive their approval. GUARDIAN now calls on the present Minister of Agriculture, or, the Prime Minister himself, to look into this piece of injustice, and take urgent steps to correct the situation. [Text] [St Georges GRENADA GUARDIAN in English 29 May 87 p 6] /13046

SUPPORT FOR OECS UNION--St George's, June 7, Cana--Grenada's Opposition Leader Phinsley St Louis says he supports moves by leaders of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) to form a political union. "I believe it would be a good thing but one has to be careful that the people of the various islands are involved and support political union," he told CANA. According to St Louis he was giving the issue active consideration in order to come up with the type of shape he himself would like to see this proposed unity take. "While I believe it is a good thing I haven't given it sufficient thought yet as to how it should work," he said. During their meeting in Tortola last week, the OECS leaders agreed in principle to hold a referendum on closer political union after engaging in dialogue with all interested groups in their respective territories on the issue. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 8 Jun 87 p 5] /13046

CSO: 3298/256

DEPUTY FLORES CABALLERO CHALLENGES BASES OF U.S. CRITICISM

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 22 Jun 87 pp 1,A, 19-A, 35-A

[Text] Yesterday, Romeo Flores Caballero, chairman of the Chamber of Deputies' Border Affairs Commission and member of the delegation to the Mexican-United States interparliamentary meeting, declared that Mexico is about to change the terms of its relationship with the United States, so that what is superfluous will be set aside.

Interviewed at his residence, the Monterrey legislator, born in 1935, also expressed the view that neither the United States nor any other country will influence the decisions made for the presidential succession; because, "in the Mexican political system there is no process that is more independent, sovereign, and dissociated from external pressure than that of the succession."

A scholar and expert on Mexican-United States affairs (he himself worked as an illegal in the southern part of the neighboring country, his parents and nine siblings live there, and some of them are U.S. citizens), Flores Caballero gave notice that the new phase of relations between the two countries must be governed by more and better mutual understanding and respect.

Flores Caballero, who holds a doctorate in history, noted that, this year, the political balance favors the Mexicans, after the U.S. predictions of disasters; because "our government has gained confidence and strength, while the neighboring country is suffering from precisely the opposite."

Moreover, he declared: "Those who, last year, were accusing Mexico and inventing sinister legends are now being tried in their own country for acting against the laws." The "augurers of disaster" have now learned that "the Mexican system is strong and solid, and its institutions are operating."

The legislator commented: "I think that friends come to know each other in crises. We have been with our friends to the north in many instances: during World War I, and II, in the Korean War, and that in Vietnam. Our arms were ready to work.

"Now when it is we Mexicans who need a hand, they contrive for us the possibility of changing the system. They are contributing to the crisis. They have

proven to be unfriendly. They are selling the idea that they are losing control of their borders, and that the migrants carry drugs on their trips. They create myths, and revive cliches. They have gone so far as to insult and attack Mexican nationalism, and our political system and institutions."

Affiliated With Teaching

Flores Caballero and his wife were married in Mercedes, Texas, and later settled in Weslaco, where they had three daughters. Subsequently, the great depression took them to Monterrey, where seven more children were born, including Romeo.

Born in a squatter community, the son of illiterate parents, the now deputy's history is affiliated essentially with teaching. In 1953, he received a teacher's certificate at the Nuevo Leon Normal School, and since then has given courses in primary, preparatory, and normal school education, at UNAM [National Autonomous University of Mexico], at the Colegio de Mexico, the Autonomous Technological Institute of Mexico, the Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon, the University of Monterrey, and in that northern city's Technological Institute.

He spent 13 years at the Colegio de Mexico. One day, Alejandro Carrillo Castro invited him to join the office of administrative studies of the Presidency.

Later, Eliseo Mendoza Berrueto took him to the Secretariat of Commerce, where the Coahuilan was undersecretary. Francisco Javier Alejo had him as director of international affairs in SEPANAL [Secretariat of National Patrimony]. Arsenio Farrell made him coordinator of delegations in IMSS [Mexican Social Security Institute]. Jose Andres de Oteyza named him director of the metal-working industry in SEPAFIN [Secretariat of Financial Patrimony]. Alfonso Martinez Dominguez appointed him secretary of education in the Nuevo Leon government. Later, he was federal deputy representing the district in which Pablo Emilio Madero, Jose Angel Conchello, and Rosario Ibarra de Piedra reside.

"Sometimes we even experienced really criminal bombarding from those who fill the newspaper pages with yellow journalism, speaking ill of Mexico. In 1983 and 1984, we fell into the trap, and were greatly concerned. We wanted to retort.

"In 1986, the insults returned; but now we realize that those who were doing so then had no moral authority to judge us. Now, the accusers are being accused for what they did in Iran.

"The Mexican system is operating, and its institutions as well. The system is sufficiently flexible to become modernized, without breaking apart. Those who were talking about the lack of leadership in the government have realized that President De la Madrid has strength, firmness, and clear thinking."

On the other hand, he notes: "The United States has had the bad luck, so to speak, of having elected Nixon, who ended his term badly; Ford, who did not succeed in consolidating the Republican Party in power; and Carter, who only

managed to remain in the White House for one term, and ended with his government's confused position in Iran."

"Until Reagan arrived."

"It seemed that, with Reagan, the limit of any president's popularity had been reached. And yet, President Reagan, with his action in Iran, has lost credibility, confidence, and popularity."

"And what does this mean?"

"Well, whereas in Mexico, its president is gaining confidence and strength, our neighbors are acquiring the exact opposite. And to this extent, there is an increased possibility that Mexico will improve its negotiating position; and to this extent also, we shall be in a position to resume Mexican-U.S. relations on different bases."

The U.S. Economy Concerns Us

Moreover, Deputy Flores Caballero stresses that "we are very seriously concerned that the United States may succumb to an economic recession."

He quotes data, recalls statistics, makes comparisons, and remarks:

"The United States has serious problems. And the bad part about it is that, often, the bill for the economic imbalances is passed on to us developing and underdeveloped countries. So, the problems reach us."

He adds: "On the other hand, we must not succumb to the paranoia of thinking that everything that the United States does is being done against us. We need to modernize our relations with that country, and act with more imagination and more understanding."

He recalls the "cynicism and arrogance" of the undersecretary of state (Elliot Abrams, although he does not name him), who accused Mexico, setting himself up as judge, and who is now being judged for what he did against various countries. He notes that a country cannot be accused of blame for the drug traffic when most of the marijuana consumed is being grown in its own territory and there are 25 million addicts and an obvious "crisis of values" there.

He claims to "perceive" in the academic world the importance and Mexico's endeavor to arrive at a change in its relations with the United States. He admits that, at first, that intellectual world was shocked by the accusations and recriminations; but now the situation is clearly understood. They know about the pressure for handling the case of Nicaragua, and over the Central American issue.

"It is not that we should be distant neighbors, but rather different. We are friends. We have points in common and agreement, but of course it is easier to be enemies than to be friends. But we think that there has now been enough seeking of differences. Now we can seek agreement, and have them accept us with our flaws and our virtues. I believe that the smoke screen that was dimming our relations is beginning to be dissipated with the blowing of better winds."

PRI COMMISSION CENSURES ACTIONS OF MRD LEADERS

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 23 Jun 87 p 7

[Text of "Statement" issued by National Political Coordination Commission of Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI] on 22 June 1987; for related documents, from the 13th PRI National Assembly, see JPRS LATIN AMERICA REPORT of 24 April 1987 (JPRS-LAM-031) pp 42-55]

[Text] The National Political Coordination Commission of the Institutional Revolutionary Party issues this communique based on a unanimous resolution adopted at a meeting held on this date.

Before and during the 13th National Assembly, the proposals made by the party's members, delegates, sectors, and leaders were received and analyzed quite extensively, with democratic, pluralistic participation marked by respect in the public discussion of ideas and free, responsible expression of personal opinion and criticism.

We party members have fully exercised our rights to free opinion and proposal, respecting the obligation of all to abide by and fulfill the agreements and resolutions decided upon at the National Assembly. Freedom and discipline are not at odds with one another; on the contrary, they complement each other to reinforce the party's democratic existence.

Free expression of ideas, as well as criticism, are rights that the party guarantees and will maintain; because they correspond to the freedom of its members and sectors; while at the same time upholding the fundamental principle of any political organization, that of the minority's abiding by the resolutions adopted by the majority.

The Assembly, as the party's supreme body, did not approve the proposals made by citizens Cuauhtemoc Cardenas Solorzano and Porfirio Munoz Ledo. Nevertheless, they, far removed from abiding by the Assembly's sovereign decision and intensifying the unity and discipline that our free membership entails, have resorted to the systematic use of forums dissociated from the Institutional Revolutionary Party, and even from the country, to persist in proposals contrary to the desires voiced at the Assembly. With this position, the aforementioned persons are seeking to show a distorted image of the revolutionary unity that prevails among the party's sectors, organizations, territorial structure and leadership all over the republic.

In our political organization, we meticulously respect the right to criticize and dissent; what we do not tolerate is opposition within the party.

The national PRI movement also resolved to intensify the commitments and struggle of the party on behalf of the most needy social classes. It expressed its determined backing for the economic and social policy of the government of the republic, as well as for its foreign policy; and it confirmed and improved the statutory procedures for the internal selection of its candidates for popularly elected office.

The Assembly resolved to require of the party's National Executive Committee total fulfillment of the resolutions adopted, and strict implementation of the statutory rules, to guarantee internal unity and discipline.

In the terms of our statutes, "the National Executive Committee is the organ which permanently represents and directs the party throughout the country."

On 9 March of this year, citizen Cuauhtemoc Cardenas Solorzano publicly declared his free, spontaneous decision not to offer cooperation to "the highest party leadership."

On 13 March, citizen Porfirio Munoz Ledo, in a public message, stated: "Our solidarity with Cuauhtemoc Cardenas is complete. We are familiar with his text, and we support it; I am speaking for all of us."

One of the unavoidable obligations of the members of the Institutional Revolutionary Party is the observance of party discipline, through respect for and fulfillment of the legitimate decisions of the authorized organs, entailing the principle of the minority's subjection to majority decisions.

Citizens Cardenas Solorzano and Munoz Ledo, in addition to having voiced their decision not to cooperate with our leadership, have engaged in many divisive acts, statements, and maneuvers, contrary to the Assembly's resolutions; which are an assault upon the party's program and organizational unity, going along with the reactionaries and forces both inside and outside of the country which are attempting to nullify the revolution's social plan.

Many members of our party and leaders of its sectors, committees, and organizations comprising it throughout the country have publicly expressed their forceful repudiation of that position.

For the reasons stated, this commission resolves:

First. To condemn, reject, and denounce the political action being taken by citizens Cuauhtemoc Cardenas Solorzano and Porfirio Munoz Ledo, as contrary to our principles of struggle, to the decisions voiced at the 13th National Assembly, and to the organic unity of the Institutional Revolutionary Party.

Second. To notify the PRI movement throughout the entire republic that the political activities being carried out, and those engaged in by citizens Cardenas Solorzano and Munoz Ledo in the future, are strictly personal in nature, disconnected from our organization, and lacking in any party representation, as well as excluded from the work program and action that the party is executing in the electoral processes;

Third. To inform the sectors, organizations, leadership, and membership all over the country that, in the political activities being carried out by the aforementioned citizens, they will not be able to use the party's physical facilities, nor protect themselves under our organization's symbol; and,

Fourth. To reiterate the consensus reached at the National Assembly, that those who put themselves in a position of non-fulfillment of the statutory rules and of disloyalty to the Institutional Revolutionary Party are at liberty to act wherever it best suits their own personal interests.

"Democracy and Social Justice"

22 June 1987

Mr Jorge de la Vega Dominguez, Chairman of the National Executive Committee

Senator Antonio Riva Palacio, Secretary of Political Action and Legislative Coordination

Professor Hector Hugo Olivarez Ventura, Secretary of Agrarian Action and Secretary General of the National Peasant Confederation

Deputy Guillermo Fonseca Alvarez, Secretary of Popular Action and Secretary General of the National Confederation of Popular Organizations

Mr Humberto Lugo Gil, Secretary General of the National Executive Committee

Deputy Nicolas Reynes Berezaluce, Secretary of Political Action and Legislative Coordination

Mr Fidel Velazquez Sanchez, Secretary General of the Confederation of Mexican Workers

Deputy Blas Chumacero Sanchez, Secretary of Labor Action

2909

CSO: 3248/337

MEXICO

POSSIBLE OIL DELIVERIES FOR CUBA NOTED AT MOSCOW MEETING

[Editorial Report] Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 8 Jul 87 on pp 5-A, 28-A carries a 1400-word article by correspondent Aurelio Ramos M., datelined Moscow, on the Soviet-Mexican interparliamentary meetings that took place there on 7 July. The article briefly notes that an unnamed USSR Economy Ministry official stated during the day's proceedings that negotiations for the purchase of Mexican oil by the Soviet Union for supply to Cuba are "very advanced." The official is reported to have said that the USSR is supplying a great deal of oil to Cuba, alluding, according to the article, to the oil delivery under negotiation. The official is also said to have indicated that talks on this oil agreement might be completed in the next few months.

CSO: 3248/359

ARCE ON FSLN INTERNAL DEBATE, ORGANIZATION, NUMBERS

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 25 Jun 87 pp 1A, 21A, 40-42A

[Interview with Cmdr Bayardo Arce at FSLN headquarters by Djuka Julius; date and time not given]

[Text] Managua, 24 June---"We do not adhere to the concept put forth by the classic Leninist parties in the countries already defined as Marxist-Leninist. This is not the party model to which we aspire, because our own situation shows us something different, especially now that these Marxist-Leninist parties have begun a process of reviewing their experiences."

The above was stated by Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce in an exclusive interview with EXCELSIOR at the general headquarters of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN). Cmdr Arce, one of the nine members of the FSLN National Directorate, devotes all of his time to party work.

He said that the conversion of the FSLN into a political party "is a process of searching for a party identity" that has not yet ended, and that there is not yet any single criterion for what kind of party should be established. The debate on this issue in the National Directorate is not finished, he noted.

He added that it would be "easier to say what kind of party we do not intend to become. The search for the type of party that suits us does not have a predetermined goal; it is a matter of finding in our experiences and in the theoretical synthesis of revolutionary processes elements that can enrich our own experience; that is, they are points of reference, not targets."

Arce emphasized that the conversion of the Front into a political party is based on the need to review the experiences of liberal parties and Marxist parties in an effort to "take the virtues of both experiences, both party concepts, and find a synthesis that is just right for us, or that is related to our own situation."

"Our experiences aim at making the Sandinist Front a party of cadres that is part of the masses, linked to the masses; in other words, a party of cadres that is part of the masses, not a party above the masses," explained Bayardo

Arce. He went on to say, however, that the debate on what kind of party should be formed—one of cadres, or of the masses—has not ended yet in the National Directorate, where it was recently decided "to conduct a review of our experiences to see to what extent this line is correct, or to what extent changes in course or new concepts would be appropriate. Naturally, the idea of a party of the masses would not be discounted."

"Personally, I believe that in our case the best thing is to keep this line, which I consider to be correct, and to advance along the path of turning the Front into a party of cadres that is part of the masses, so that the borderline between what is party and what is not party is not rigid," stated Arce, emphasizing that the 80 percent of Nicaraguans are members of the FSLN itself and of the mass organizations.

Application of Three Currents

"Sandinism is like the Nicaraguan application of three major currents of universal thought: Marxism, Christianity, and nationalism," said Bayardo Arce. He explained that the struggle against the Somoza dictatorship brought together and united people who arrived at this war of revolutionary liberation by way of Marxism, on the route of popular Christianity, or along the path of nationalism, and although they had taken different routes, they arrived at the same conclusions.

"In this dynamic, in this exchange of life and experiences during the revolution, we got to know each other, to respect each other. And today's Sandinism emerged from that like a quintessence," said Arce.

He went on: "I can state categorically that I do not want, we do not want Nicaragua to become like the Soviet Union, or like the United States, or like France. So I have a clear idea of what we do not want to be, but in those countries and societies there have indeed been some very valuable social, economic, and administrative experiences that can be of use to us in accordance with our situation.

"Nor do I want Nicaragua to be like Cuba, because the Cuban experience is not for us; we are not an island. We are not surrounded by water, but by countries which, moreover, are allies of the United States. Even from the psychosocial point of view, our situation is different from an insular one, an island one."

He explained that democracy is a necessity for Nicaragua, and that the recognition of political pluralism, now consecrated in the Constitution, "is not a tactical decision, but rather a strategic one" by the Sandinist Revolution. This is simply because the mixed economy, also a reality and an ongoing need, requires, as a political expression and reflection, political pluralism and the existence of opposition parties. The latter must represent the interests of sectors, groups, and social strata that are not and cannot be represented by the Front.

"We need," he added, "the opposition as a political corrective, as part of the social equilibrium. Without an active and legitimate opposition, the majority

party, which brings together the majority of the population, could easily succumb to errors." In his view, the problem is not the existence of opposition parties, but the fact that they are not devoted to uniting and giving a voice to the sectors and strata that do not feel represented by the Front, but rather turn to the outside, thinking that President Reagan could bring them to power.

"Naturally, we are convinced that the option does exist in Nicaragua to form a political party to seek power. In this regard, we are aware that if our opposition is more effective than we are in communicating with the people, and if we fall into a pattern of behaving erratically with the people, then they will have to take power. And we will have to accept this, begin again, and revise our attitude and policy. Of course, the Front will do everything possible not to lose the faith and support of the people.

"We know that under our circumstances, in addition to having a position of principle and being consistent with what we think and what we promise, we have a sense of pragmatism. We know that if we lose an election, we cannot come out saying we will not turn over power to them because we won it in a war; that would be like inviting an invasion, which would have a much higher cost for our people."

The commander continued: "We must promote a system in which we can combine social, collective, state, and cooperative forms of production, and private forms, big and small. Nicaragua does not want and does not plan to statize its economy; rather, it intends to maintain a mixed economy, because it also needs the experience and contribution of the owners of private industries and holdings.

"There is a certain similarity between the party experiences of Mexico and Nicaragua, with their own ideological shadings. In fact, there is a certain similarity between the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), Felipe Gonzalez' Spanish Socialist Workers Party (PSOE) in Spain, and the Sandinist Front, each with its own circumstances and ideological shadings. These are three parties with an overwhelming majority force, at least as shown by the election results and their mobilization capacity. At the same time, there are opposition political forces with real spheres of influence in the three countries, but they have not managed to emerge as an alternative."

We spoke with Cmdr Bayardo Arce, tall and erect, mild-mannered and friendly, for nearly 2 hours in his office at the FSLN National Directorate. There, he and Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado, who is of Mexican origin, work constantly. They are, one might say, the only two of the nine members of the Sandinist Directorate who are professional politicians, who devote their time exclusively to party and political tasks in the popular organizations which guide the Front.

Without a Sandinist uniform, but wearing blue pants, black boots, and a dark blue T-shirt, this journalist-turned-revolutionary, one of the leaders of Nicaragua, expresses himself vividly, openly, directly. He is easy to understand, and he tries not to go overboard in his responses, but to give clear and well-defined answers.

One pleasant surprise is that when one meets Bayardo Arce face to face, one realizes that he is not at all like the image that has been created of him, particularly abroad, as a rigid or dogmatic man, captive to classic Marxist schemes imposed by the Soviets or the Cubans.

Perhaps because of his sincerity, which may at times come off as rudeness, or because of his revolutionary past--before the reunification of the three Sandinist factions, he belonged to the Prolonged Popular War (GPP), led by Tomas Borge--this image of Bayardo Arce as an uncompromising radical has been conveyed. In fact, he is anything but dogmatic.

The interview we conducted is the best proof that he is not dogmatic, but rather a realistic, flexible, pragmatic, sensible revolutionary whose political actions and analysis are based on the external situation and the objective internal conditions in Nicaragua. Occasionally with humor, but always with seriousness, his words flowing easily, Bayardo Arce expounds on his vision of pluralist and partisan democratic life in Nicaragua, today and tomorrow.

He argues above all that the concept of the Front become party is not a classic Marxist model of the Leninist ilk, but rather an adaptation to the tradition, development, and need of a majority, revolutionary party in a country like Nicaragua. The same idea comes across when Arce discusses the society that is being sought and built in Nicaragua, or when he explains the concept of a pluralist democracy anchored in a mixed economy.

Or could it be, perhaps, that this extremely revealing and significant exposition by Bayardo Arce is a concrete and encouraging expression of the strategic redefinition that is now well underway in Nicaragua among the Sandinist leadership?

In any case, it is better for Cmdr Bayardo Arce to speak for himself:

[Question] Cmdr Arce, how far did the party's investigation get? What type of political party is the FSLN en route to becoming?

[Answer] We say that we are working at this time on building a party, because we feel that the characteristics we developed in the struggle against the dictatorship are still present, to a great extent. This is especially true considering that we have not really left the war. So we were formed as a political-military organization in the struggle against the dictatorship, with quite a bit of internal verticalism, although with many expressions of political and party life in the Sandinist Front. The clandestine nature that was imposed on our development, and the basic methodology we used in battle, which was political-military confrontation, left us with certain ideas and organizational forms.

A year and a half after the triumph of the revolution, we became involved in another type of war, and although we are now in a position to be able to advance a little in party forms, in political forms, this war continues to link us to certain positive experiences from the past.

For example, we have not made much progress in forms of party democracy; we still have high levels of organic centralism in our ranks. That is why we say we are in the process of building the party.

We believe that the party is a fundamentally democratic entity of life, with a great deal of participation by its components. We must forge a revolutionary party in our country in which we can propel all these mechanisms beyond what we are doing now.

As I said before, in the formal, organic aspect we still have centralist features. The members of the National Directorate are the ones who appoint people to the intermediate organizations of the party, and who appoint cadres to carry out different responsibilities. This is not yet the product of a process of internal administration, from the bottom up, although ever since the triumph, and still today, we have striven to cultivate democracy in its participative and deliberative aspects, which we regard as the most fundamental.

We do not have a submissive membership or a membership that is only prepared to receive instructions and carry them out like an army, independently of the popular--indeed moral--instruction known as "National Directorate Order." Rather, we have a variety of ways to deal with the key problems of the revolution and the particular problems of the various sectors, through a discussion with all the members of the Sandinist Front.

You ask me what kind of party we have. I believe that it would be easier for me to say what kind of party we do not intend to become. For us, one of the characteristics of the Sandinist Popular Revolution is that it is advancing with a permanent vision or mentality of searching, but this is a search that does not have a predetermined objective; rather, it aims to find in experiences, in the theoretical synthesis of revolutionary processes, elements which can enrich our own experience. In other words, they are points of reference, not targets.

So in that regard, we do not adhere, for example, to the concept put forth by the classic Leninist parties of the countries already defined as Marxist-Leninist. That is not the party model to which we aspire; our own situation shows us something different. That cannot be our model especially now that they themselves have begun a process of reviewing their experiences, but it never was anyway.

Nor is our model that of a liberal party.

Our search for a party identity, in any case, would try to take the virtues of both experiences, both concepts, and find a synthesis that is just right for us, or that is related to our situation.

[Question] If I understand you correctly, the idea is rather to preserve in the party of the future the experience of a great front of the masses. Or are you moving toward a party of cadres?

[Answer] Our definitions aim at making the Sandinist Front a party of cadres that is part of the masses, directly tied to the masses.

Recently, however, we in the Directorate have noted that it is important to review our experience and to see to what extent this line is correct, or to what extent new course changes or new concepts would be appropriate. Naturally, the idea of a party of the masses would not be discounted.

Personally, I believe that the best thing in our case is to keep this line, which I consider to be correct. In other words, a party of cadres that is part of the masses; not a party of cadres above the masses, but among them. In this way, the borderline between what is party and what is not party is sometimes--and this is our present experience--blurry, because we do not tell the revolutionary people who feel they are Sandinists that they are not part of the party; we do not shut the door of the party. On the contrary, we are concerned that many people who want to be part of the party are not, because sometimes at the grassroots level there is a mechanical application of the concept of the party of cadres.

Moreover, our very organic composition does not allow us to succumb to a narrow vision of the party of cadres.

Our situation brings us to a broad vision of the party of cadres. Because we do not have an ideological map that limits the definition of the cadre.

For example, we in the Sandinist Front respect religious beliefs, and in that regard we have believers of different faiths who are cadres of the Sandinist Front. In other situations, perhaps that element could exclude people. The same is true from the standpoint of classes; that is, we do not place any limits on the class origin of people, a certain percentage of workers or peasants for balance. And finally, one aspect of our situation is the cultural phenomenon in our country, Nicaragua's cultural development.

Nor can we impose restrictions on the cultural, academic development of our cadres, because until very recently, the majority of our people were illiterate. We still have illiterates, and in fact many of our cadres are just now going through primary school. Therefore, the concept of the cadre must be approached more broadly. Furthermore, we are a young organization, and the concept of cadres cannot be determined by a long history here. Only a few of us members of the Sandinist Front have been in its ranks more than 10 or 15 years. So all of this makes it difficult for our concept of cadres to be limiting or rigid. This is also what makes it possible for us to be part of the masses.

[Question] Can you give me an approximate idea of how many members the party has? How many participated in the armed struggle? How many are now participating in the process after the triumph of the revolution?

[Answer] I think that is a truly important element in understanding our experience.

We do not have an exact count, but there is one development that was revealing to us.

We decided to establish what we called the 2nd Wave [promocion] of Militants of the Sandinist Front, operating on the principle that the first wave consisted of those comrades who gave their lives in the struggle against the dictatorship.

So when we decided to create this 2nd Wave to stimulate and distinguish the comrades with the longest history of participating, first we proposed to give this special card to those who had been in the Sandinist Front for 5 years. We discovered that there were fewer than 150 of us. Then we decided to reduce the term to 2 years, so we would give the card to those who had belonged to the Sandinist Front for 2 years. We still did not have many, maybe 500 or fewer. Then we decided to move the date even closer, to the last 9 months, because we figured: Well, anyone who did not join the Sandinist Front here in the months right around the insurrections of 1978 doesn't deserve such a distinction. We must at least recognize those who were inspired by the insurrection of 1978 to join forces with us. And with that, we barely have 1,400-odd cases.

So what did we do to be at the head of the entire nation? The answer lay in where the members were. As it turned out, those 1,500 people were really part of, linked to, all the sectors of our people. They were 1,500 union leaders, student leaders, peasant leaders, religious leaders, professional leaders, etc., with an extraordinary bond that enabled them to lead and attract the entire nation to follow an extremely difficult road, the one we were mapping out for our people, launching an insurrectional process to take power practically unarmed.

We have not lost that trait, but this also explains subsequent developments, to a certain extent. Afterwards, we have taken a close look not only at that virtue, shall we say, of our 1,500 members, but also at their weakness. How were those 1,500 people organized? We found that we had many comrades who were snipers, but no one knew them to be members of the Front. They were not used to being part of an organization, to having a discussion in an organization; they had a chief who only gave them instructions because of the nature of their work.

Many of these comrades, the vast majority of them, did not have what we could call an experience of party life, but we had to work with that to build the party, so we did. We are learning the meaning of party life, and in this process there is always the risk of succumbing to formalism and saying that one engages in party life because one meets in a cell or a committee, as it's called, and carries out a series of normal activities; not because that is a forum where a man has to contribute to an ongoing discussion, which needs a leading party to be able to advance.

[Question] Among what are called cadres, which now function in the different organs of the Front, are there already a large number of comrades who did not participate in the war, in the armed struggle?

[Answer] Yes, I would say the majority.

If we accept that this organic force, which we have been able to identify more or less, was involved in the struggle 9 months before the triumph, and numbered barely 1,500; and if we bear in mind the different levels of that force in terms of capacity, we can see perfectly well that the number of cadres we could attract from there for all the responsibilities of revolutionary power would not be enough.

We are talking about a country whose government has 40 ministries, where at least 80 cadres are required, a minister and a vice minister for each ministry. We are talking about a country that has managed to identify, amid all its difficulties, some 70 industrial enterprises it considers strategic.

We are talking about a country which is promoting an agrarian reform process that has already distributed 3 million manzanas of land, equivalent to 30 percent of the land, to the peasantry, and which must launch an entire process of agrarian transformation. A country that is divided into nine political-administrative regions, and that has at the head of each of these regions a group of cadres. And that also has a number of mass organizations.

We have about 18 mass and social organizations, organizations of industrial workers, of agricultural workers, of peasants, of women, of youths, of professionals, of children, of barrios, of health workers, of education workers, of university students, of secondary students—all linked to the Sandinist Front here. In short, all of this requires cadres to be at the head of each of these organizations and sectors.

We are also talking about a country that opted for a political-judicial system which requires a Legislative Assembly where 62 Sandinist deputies must be avoided, and a conglomerate of cadres must take responsibility for that.

And more important than all that, perhaps, is the fact that this country is at war; it must deal with a monstrous aggression by the United States, which requires that nearly 100,000 men be on a war footing at all times, either directly in combat or in defensive positions to prevent an invasion. Consequently, leading this large number of men and giving them technical security and material and logistical support, etc. requires a number of cadres that would be impossible to get out of 1,500.

This makes it very clear that the revolution has already managed to produce a tremendous pool of cadres since the triumph.

Consequently, all of those people are on trial, the people who went to teach literacy, the people who go to pick coffee, sacrificing their Christmas and end-of-year holidays to go into the mountains alongside the peasants. These elements are equivalent, from the formative standpoint, to what we ourselves had to go through. To be sure, one can argue that conditions are always different; it was not the same when we had to go out, not knowing when we would return home, whereas these people leave in November and know they will come back in February. But in the final analysis, these elements must be

weighed, and they forge a consciousness and develop an attitude that give these cadres their own merits.

[Question] Thinking of the future, of the formation of the party, I am also interested in the concept of a party that is part of the masses. Are you thinking of the formation of a great organization of Sandinists who are not cadres? Is there a plan to join together the professionals and the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution in one great union, organization, or front? Or what do you think?

[Answer] These are matters that we have not discussed, but that is precisely what we did.

We already made note of that situation on one occasion; we discussed it at the beginning of the revolution, because we found that, in the first place, if I recall correctly, when we swept triumphantly into Managua, we already had about 12,000 men. Perhaps many of them were unarmed, but they were in the militias and the force that was claiming victory. Moreover, the entire nation accepted us as part of it, and everyone here wanted to be a Sandinist.

That led us immediately to a discussion of what kind of party we wanted; whether we wanted a party of the masses and would open up the membership to all those people who regarded themselves as Sandinists, or whether we would adhere to the concept of a party of cadres and try first to consolidate that group of cadres. What we decided was to opt for the latter, but we did not see it as an either-or proposition. We decided at that time to send out groups of our comrades to organize the people into their own Sandinist organizations.

That is why many things are called Sandinist here, not because we decided it, but because the people themselves did.

We find that perhaps 80 percent of the entire nation is involved in these organizations linked to the Sandinist Front, and I am not exaggerating. All of them have a majority of Sandinist members on their boards of directors, as well as in their intermediate grassroots organizations. And that is what establishes the need to forge a link in which we do not force the spirit of Sandinism and revolution on the people with some of the self-discipline that is necessary in a cadre.

Because sometimes--and this was a rule we learned ourselves when we were still underground--we think a good collaborator is better than a poor militant.

[Question] Are you already thinking about a congress? If so, what timetable are you thinking of in terms of the final formation of the party, with a platform and bylaws? Are you approaching that? How far away is it?

[Answer] Quite far. We have not even thought about it.

We have been living with one priority for 6 years, and that priority is surviving, defending the revolution, so that later on we can undertake the

construction of everything that must be built in this country, including the revolutionary party with the most organic democratic expressions.

It has not occurred to us to plan a congress or anything of the sort. Our principal effort is now aimed at guaranteeing that every year we have the 20,000 to 30,000 youths we need to replace those who are demobilized from the war, that every year we have the 50,000 to 60,000 men aged 25 to 40 who will go through military training so that they will be able to confront an invasion. In other words, that is the constant dynamic of our work.

In addition, we must deal with what the imperialists tried to do to us through their allied forces within the country. For example, they even provoked the most critical stage we have gone through with the Church, because it converted its temples and its services into places where political rallies were held to protest military service. That is, when we are calling upon the entire nation to defend us against the aggressive escalation by the Americans, they are out there saying that no one should go, that no one should accept military service. That was the factor that did the most to strain relations between the Church and the state.

Our work was to try to persuade parents of their revolutionary duty, their patriotic duty, and to try to attract youths, without abruptly breaking off with the Church. That forced us to marshal all our party forces, because it was a door-to-door effort. We designated days when all the party forces would go house to house, to all Nicaraguan homes. They would talk with the parents, with the youths, etc., to explain their patriotic duty and all the conditions, precisely what it meant to take that step. And that took months.

Now the patriotic military service is no longer a political problem; it was resolved. Reality itself strengthened our political argument. With the military service, we have managed, with stable, well-trained combatants signed up for 2-year hitches and in good physical shape, to strategically reverse the war. The casualty figures that used to be so frightening are completely changed; now we have very few casualties compared to what we had in 1983-84.

The notion that anyone who went into military service would never return because he would be killed has now been debunked; people have begun to see the thousands of youths who went and fought, won, and returned.

[Question] In that connection, where does Sandinism stand in relation to the ideas of socialism when it comes to ideological definition? Where does it stand in relation to Marxism as an ideology, as a method of analysis?

[Answer] I said one time, in a sort of analysis of our experience and an attempt to explain why the Reagan administration wants to destroy us, that Sandinism is like the Nicaraguan application of three great currents of universal thought: Marxism, Christianity, and nationalism.

So, in the Directorate—and we are not talking about the cadres or the militant masses or the military detachment—we reached the same conclusions and the same line of action through different routes.

Some came from a theoretical background of Marxism-Leninism and a typically Marxist, socialist inspiration. Others came from a Christian activism and reflection, while others emerged from a nationalist reflection and life, with a clear anti-imperialist consciousness, because their situation had shown them all the damage imperialist domination has done to this country. From this dynamic, from this exchange of life and experience, from this mutual respect and familiarity, this unification, has emerged a sort of quintessence, and that is Sandinism.

Therefore, when we are asked what is Sandinism, what kind of Nicaragua do we want to build, we answer that it is easier for us to say what we do not want to build rather than what we want to build; because this is also a process that is still in the search phase. This search has been enriched but also harmed by the dynamic of the war that has been forced upon us.

I can state categorically that I do not want Nicaragua to become like the USSR; I do not want it to be like the United States, or like France. I have a clear idea of what we do not want to be. But I do believe that in the United States, in the USSR, and in France, there are some very valuable, very important social, economic, and administrative experiences that can be of use to us in accordance with our situation.

[Question] Do you see the Cuban experience in the same light?

[Answer] The Cuban experience is not for us; we are not an island. We are not surrounded by water, but by countries which, moreover, are allies of the United States. Our situation, even from the psychosocial standpoint, is different from an insular one, an island one.

[Question] I have always maintained that revolutions can be neither exported nor imported . . .

[Answer] That is correct.

We believe that, and that is why we have always disputed Reagan's accusation that we want to export our revolution, no matter how much we would like to.

Reality is proving this to them; counterrevolutions cannot be exported either. They have spent millions of dollars and sent arms, and it is not working because politico-social processes lie at the heart of the people; no matter how many weapons are sent, if people do not want to take up arms, they will not, and they will not make war. That is our idea of what Sandinism is all about.

Now I would like to say that it is not that we have a Marxist-Leninist wing, a Christian wing, and a nationalist wing; we have a synthesis.

[Question] Can one say that the historic objective of this revolution is a socialism with uniquely Nicaraguan characteristics, with a Nicaraguan, Sandinist face?

[Answer] I believe so.

They say that Nicaragua is a country of lakes, volcanoes, and poets, but we all have a little of the poet in us, and even the revolution itself is poetic.

We think, rather, in terms of a revolution with a strong foundation of human solidarity, of human complementarity, with a high degree of social awareness, putting social wellbeing above individual wellbeing, and placing the future generations above the present ones. That is our vision.

Generally, we always associate what we want out of the revolution with the smiles of children.

[Question] Nicaragua defines itself in its Constitution as a politically pluralistic country. Does this mean that Sandinism must accept political coexistence with rightist and leftist forces that are not Sandinist? Do you see these forces as adversaries, as the opposition? Do you recognize their right to aspire to gain power, and could they obtain a majority in a democratic electoral process?

[Answer] In the first place, we are convinced that if there is an option—as there is in Nicaragua—of forming a political party, of participating in a political process, it lies in the search for power.

In this regard, we are aware that if our opposition is more effective than we are in communicating with the people, and if we fall into a pattern of behaving erratically with the people, then they will have to take power. And we will have to accept this, begin again, and revise our attitude.

I believe that that is a theoretical problem, from my point of view, which is resolved juridically, and is also resolved with political will.

We know that under our circumstances, in addition to having a position of principle and being consistent with what we think and what we promise, we have a sense of pragmatism. We know that if we lose an election, we cannot come out saying we will not turn over power to them because we won it in a war.

That would be like inviting an invasion, which would have a much higher cost for our people.

I say that this is resolved as a position of principle and a juridical position, because it is laid down in our Constitution. Seen from a more philosophical point of view, I contend that that is a strictly theoretical argument. But I have a contradiction with the opposition, because on the one hand, I need it; we need that opposition.

[Question] To legitimize the democracy, or as a corrective influence?

[Answer] We need it as a corrective influence, a social counterweight, and I would like to cultivate it, but I know that if I cultivate it it can also turn on me.

That is the contradiction of a party that feels strong, firmly rooted in the people, and therefore, with all the criticism we have encouraged within our ranks and our political constituents, the party can make mistakes. Sometimes these mistakes stem from our being alone, not having an interlocutor.

In this sense, I think an opposition is a healthy thing. At a given moment, one may lose his perspective, even though, as I say, we have a tremendous dynamic of participation and popular discussion. Despite the entire dynamic and mechanism in a country that can hardly do anything without the conscious, active, and belligerent participation of the masses, mistakes can be made.

[Question] Hence the importance of the concept of participative democracy in Sandinism, the existence of an opposition as a factor in forging the national consciousness?

[Answer] Yes. I believe this must be carried a little further.

We have established an option here that is not tactical, and it is here where political pluralism arises; it is the option of the mixed economy.

Looking at our experience, our historical economic-social development, and being familiar with the experiences of other countries, we have reached the conclusion that a total statist system does not suit us; having everything belong to the state is not suited to us. I am referring to our historical economic-social development as a country of artisans, small and medium farmers, etc., owners of medium-sized businesses. Moreover, ours is an underdeveloped country, without technology, and without the economic resources to exploit our wealth. We cannot accept having the state be the great administrator of everything.

Consequently, we decided that here we must learn how to profit from the economic-social experience of this country, and we must recognize that the best experience is in the business sector (it's no coincidence that they were the dominant ones.)

There is no doubt that this sector immediately falls into a political analysis, not just removing the Somocists whom we removed, not just the Somocists who left, but also the businessmen who were not Somocists and were immediately divided politically. There are some who, perhaps fearfully, are somewhat curious about the revolution and want to participate; others, in contrast, immediately confront it, without pausing to reflect. That is why we divide businessmen into patriots and traitors.

But we know that there remains a patriotic business sector which can impart to us all of its management and production experience. On the other hand, we are beginning a process of economic-social transformation in which we must combine all of the experience and assets of those small producers, small artisans, who always operated under great restrictions, without any support. We are beginning to lend them support, and we are beginning to develop collective forms of production, both in small industry and in the artisan and rural sectors. And this leads us to the strategic—not tactical—option of the mixed economy.

We must promote a system in which we can combine social, collective, state, and cooperative forms of production, and private forms, big and small.

If this is the case, now we must ask ourselves as a party: Can we represent all these people?

We are striving to represent them patriotically, as a national force, as a party force. In other words, the Sandinist Front is defending the Pellas family, which owns the principal wealth in this country, and we represent it as a nation, looking outward. But in terms of the situation of the classes and the problems of the people, we cannot represent Carlos Pellas, because we have a class option, which is the worker-peasant axis, and the mid-level professional sector that revolves around it.

Here the entire property-owning sector that is viable and active in our revolution remains outside our sphere of influence.

In fact, a broad sector of medium producers who are not developing the same consciousness we are managing to create in the most progressive people, because of our limitations or a variety of other factors, also remain outside our sphere of influence. Will they have no political voice?

Indeed, with respect to professionals, we count among our ranks a number of professionals who work for the state, directly for the people, but here there are a large number of liberal professionals, doctors, lawyers, who work for themselves and earn whatever they want and are making money.

We cannot represent those people organically, but we cannot deny them a political option.

That is why we need other parties to represent them, and there is where our headaches are in maintaining this system. I am convinced that none of the parties that exist in this country in opposition to the Sandinist Front represents those sectors. None of those sectors is represented in those parties.

[Question] Were they unable to unite these people?

[Answer] There is a political underdevelopment here that only the Sandinist Front has been able to overcome.

This was a country--and there are still many like it--whose senses of smell and sight did not go beyond the doors of the U.S. Embassy. There would be a conflict here, and what they would do is go to the American Embassy to submit their platform and see if they could get an endorsement to play politics. Moreover, they never managed to have any power, because it was obvious that Somoza had the power, but they would at least try to get permission to wage their campaigns.

The party was unfamiliar with the political experiences even of Latin America, not to mention the world. This country had never heard of social democracy, something that has been around for a long time.

Here there was talk of liberals, conservatives, and communists, and people were just beginning to talk about Christian social democracy, which they also regarded as communist because they said it was the little red fish swimming in holy water. That was the stigma they attached to all other political forces.

That underdevelopment prevents these parties from dealing with a doctrine, a platform, a social base to unite. They do not have clearly defined objectives. These parties learned to be "anti," not "pro," and battles are never won on the defensive; war is won on the offensive. And in politics, one never wins by being "anti" anything; only "pro" something.

This is one of the limitations our parties have here, and it has prevented them from uniting that broad sector as their social base.

To make matters worse, the war is a distorting factor. Because of the designs of the United States, instead of turning to that political constituency for support, they are waiting to see how the U.S. aggression turns out.

So what you have there now is that, for example, seven political leaders are running around Central America with their plans, instead of staying here and winning over the middle-class sectors, the artisans, the businessmen. Even in the worker sector itself, although we regard ourselves as the most appropriate representatives of the working class, the fact is that some workers do not feel that they are being represented because of ideological problems, and they are looking for other political options. But they are not trying to organize this; they are just running up and down. These are traveling parties, trying to mechanically copy what we did. But besides that, we didn't just run around outside; we were primarily here.

[Question] Is the Nicaraguan experience in dealing with the opposition parties very different from the practice of the popular democracies in Eastern Europe, where the parties are more symbolic than real, and the plural democracy is more apparent than real?

[Answer] I believe so. Undeniably so. In the first place, we have not tried to adulterate or alter the nature that many of the parties had before the triumph of the revolution; in the second place, there is the situation I was explaining to you.

Being both a nation and a government, we tried to represent and unite all the interests of all classes, but as an organic force we cannot do it. To try to do that would be to distort our own party program.

So there is a social stratum here that has a real political option which is different from ours.

[Question] Don't you think that there are indeed similarities in experiences, but under different circumstances, in that Nicaragua is developing a political

system similar to that of Mexico? That is, one great party represents the majority, while other parties have a real sphere of influence but do not win power?

[Answer] It is possible there is a similarity.

Now, in fact, we have not been mentioned as having been "PRI-ized," as Felipe Gonzalez is accused of "PRI-izing" the Spanish process.

But these three, with their own ideological shadings, their own specific conditions, do indeed have that similarity.

These are three parties (PRI, PSOE, and FSLN) with an overwhelming majority force, at least as shown by the election results and their mobilization capacity, and there are forces with real spheres of influence in these countries, but they have not managed to emerge as an alternative.

8926

CSO: 3248/353

PRESIDENCY MINISTER DETAILS 1987 CORDES BUDGET PLANS

Lima EL NACIONAL in Spanish 31 May 87 p 25

[Article by Rafael Roncal]

[Text] The initial 1987 budget for all the Departmental Development Corporations (CORDES) is 3.526 million intis, which represents a 32-percent increase over the opening budget for 1986, revealed Presidency Minister Nicanor Mujica Alvarez Calderon. He made this statement during the report on his ministry's accomplishments that was presented at the Casa del Pueblo.

He also recalled that in 1986 the CORDES executed 7,354 projects, requiring budgetary outlays of 4.484 million intis. This was 94.7 percent more than the corresponding figure for the equivalent agency under the previous government.

With regard to the initial budget for this year, he explained that under the budgetary outlay policy set forth by the government, the advances paid must be reviewed on a quarterly basis, and this will undoubtedly entail larger economic contributions from the Public Treasury. The current increase in the budget is notable in two sectors: the agrarian sector, with a rise of more than 600 percent, and the transportation and communication sector, up more than 500 percent.

As for the execution of projects, directives have been issued for the CORDES, given their limited administrative capacity, to give preference to the contract method for formulating and conducting studies, in accordance with all the pertinent legal specifications. The advantage of this method is that those responsible for both technical and economic matters are clearly defined.

Projects using the direct administration method have been authorized only in those cases where the distance, the sums involved, or the difficulties inherent in the project prevent the use of the contract method. The CORDES that have followed this recommendation have advanced the furthest in their budgetary outlays.

Obsolete Machinery

Another problem encountered in the majority of CORDES is the fact that machinery pools are completely obsolete and run down. This has made the execution of projects difficult, especially in the area of highway construction and maintenance, indicated the minister.

"The most logical response--but not the most consistent one, given that we are a poor country--would be to buy new machinery. It was recommended, however, that instead of buying machinery, which involves spending foreign exchange and engaging in costly maintenance, the CORDES lease this machinery from private firms for the execution of their road projects."

Mujica pointed out that his ministry has cracked down very hard whenever convincing evidence of embezzlement or fraud has been found, and the responsible officials have been removed.

Deconcentrate CORDES

To encourage local agencies to participate in the formulation of the development plan, and in keeping with the objective of deconcentrating the CORDES, 52 microregions have been created under the jurisdiction of the development corporations.

The microregions are areas where the coordinated action of the state is aimed at rationalizing spending and making better use of resources. In addition, they are located in the most depressed areas of the country.

One of the special programs that are part of the ministry's purview is the Technical Assistance and Training Program (PATC-CORDES). This program is designed to correct the deficient administrative structure of the overly-bureaucratic departmental corporations, most of which lack technical experts who understand the function they are to carry out.

In addition to the 25 CORDES, the following agencies also come under the Presidency Ministry umbrella: Autonomous Authority of the Lima-Callao Mass Transit Electric Train System Special Project, Direct Assistance Program, National Institute of Peasant Community Development, National Science and Technology Council, National Institute of Scholarships and Educational Credits, PATC-CORDES, National Museum of Anthropology and Archeology Special Project, National Institute of Development (INADE), and National Institute of Municipal Development. The INADE, which oversees the coordination and execution of water projects and special projects in the mountain and jungle regions, had a budget of 2.488 million intis in 1986, in view of the magnitude of the programs for which it is responsible.

The INADE is in charge of carrying out important projects, many of which were started by previous governments and are just being completed now. Other projects, such as Chavimochic and Chincas, were begun by the present government.

The projects that are underway now are: Puyango-Tumbes, Chira-Piura, Olmos, Tinajones, Jequetepeque-Zana, Majes, Tacna-Moquegua, and Chavimochic. All of these water projects require the incorporation of 315,000 new hectares of land and the improvement of 453,000 hectares. When they are completed, they will add 1,828 megawatts to current installed capacity. At present, 2,574 people are working on these water projects.

The INADE is also in charge of the special jungle projects, whose objectives are to carry out economic infrastructure projects such as roads and irrigation, and production development programs. All of these are located in what is known as the high jungle of the country, except for Ucayali and Madre de Dios.

These projects are: Jaen-San Ignacio, Huallaga Central and Bajo Mayo, Alto Huallaga, Pichis-Palcazu, Emergency Jungle Project, and Madre de Dios Project.

Moreover, the INADE is involved in a special project called the Central South Mountain Project, which involves small multisectorial, short-term programs to contribute to the rehabilitation of the depressed areas of the departments of Ayacucho, Huancavelica, Apurimac, and Cusco. Given the importance of INADE in Peru's macroregional development, this year the government has allocated it a budget of 2.520 million intis, aside from the external financing for the various projects, start to finish, which is estimated at about \$500 million.

At the end of his presentation, Nicanor Mujica stated that in his 18 months in office, his ministry has also carried out the following deeds on direct orders from the Presidency of the Republic: the disbursement of the Support Fund for Peasant and Native Communities to more than 976 communities throughout the country, and the administration and control of the fund to aid the victims of the Lake Titicaca floods.

8926

CSO: 3348/388

UNSCRUPULOUS GANGS MAIN PROBLEM IN CONSUMER MARKETS

Lima EL NACIONAL (PRIMERA LINEA supplement) in Spanish 31 May 87 pp 10-11

[Article by Eloy Jauregui]

[Text] The odyssey of a kilo of eggs, from the time it leaves the farm until it reaches the average Peruvian home, is a saga that is hard to believe. Passing through rigorous inspections, breaking through insurmountable barriers, sneaking through while officials look the other way, the eggs finally turn up at a price that can make the bravest man cry. A mafia market has put its seal of approval on them first, in a place where speculation, hoarding, monopolies, and oligopolies are no strangers. And many other basic necessities encounter the same fate as the eggs. The unscrupulous merchants, organized in mafias, are directly to blame, as are certain authorities who reap profits, protected by their official positions and the total helplessness of the consumer. Law and decrees have been passed to put an end to this cycle of crime, but the mafia is so powerful and perfectly organized that sporadic attempts to destroy it have become entangled in its tentacles.

The cause of the fire at the Jorge Chavez Market will never be determined, because these "vendettas"—although of the "chicha" category—leave only ashes and never fingerprints. A few weeks ago, the fire caused damages worth thousands of intis, yet the police reports did not even come close to mentioning what really happened. The comments amid the rubble, however, agreed: it was the mafia.

Of the 11 markets operating in the district of Lima, and the 54 small markets that manage to survive in the zone, only a few are regulated by the Municipal Secretariat of City Services, a new office created by the administration of Jorge del Castillo.

Councilwoman Ines Gamarra, of the Aprista Party of Peru (PAP), contends that since the beginning of her term, the reorganization of the markets has progressed slowly. "In the last 9 months of the Barrantes administration, absolutely nothing was done to improve price controls on food and to prevent speculation and hoarding. We didn't even find any brooms when we arrived. The market administrators were untouchable, and the employees themselves spent their time plucking chickens rather than performing their functions," she complains.

Administrator

Becoming market administrator, in fact, is the biggest plum a municipal employee can get. Bribes and kickbacks reign supreme in this small world. They say that to combat this practice, regulation and consumer protection booths were set up, and have been operating in each market for some time now. In addition, 38 housewives have formed the Mothers Club to try to put an end to this problem.

But this is not the way it really is. The aforementioned booths have a relative task. The mothers work on a volunteer basis, and they receive only 50 intis to buy refreshments. During the so-called peak hours, they can be observed overseeing weighing transactions or checking prices against a bulletin issued weekly by the Ministry of Agriculture. For the most part, however, the booths are vacant, and are used only to distribute 1/4-kilo packets of dried vegetables.

On 28 April of this year, the Municipal Marketing and Consumer Protection Commission was created. It is chaired by Councilwoman Gamarra, and includes among its members Ricardo Amiel and Juan Jose Vizcarra. So far, the commission has issued just one report, in which it attempted to describe the prevailing disorder and lack of authority in a chaotic diagnosis.

Zetti Gavelan, councilman for the National Union of the Revolutionary Left (UNIR), defends his group by arguing that it was economic limitations, unfamiliarity with the obscure world of middlemen, and the almost total absence of assistance from the Agriculture Ministry that prevented the Barrantes administration from dealing effectively with the problem of the markets.

Demagoguery Without a Budget

"During those years, no major campaign was launched because not a cent was available to begin an anti-corruption program. Today, on the other hand," Zetti Gavelan says, "the spectacular promotion by Mr Del Castillo is part of this government's demagoguery, and does not get to the heart of the problem. Moreover, the current municipal secretariat has become paralyzed, along with the rest of the administration, because so far no agreement has been reached on the municipal budget."

The problem-ridden markets in our capital are undergoing their own anarchy. Although it is true that the Rice Marketing Enterprise (ECASA) buys the various agricultural products directly from the farmer, it is also true that the mafias proliferate because these products are later sold to middlemen.

Thus, the prices issued weekly by the Agriculture Ministry serve only as a benchmark, because these prices change daily, even hourly, depending on the tug-of-war between wholesalers and retailers. We can find the best example in the so-called Parada, where the retailer who wants to buy a sack of potatoes must bribe a whole series of middlemen who change their prices every hour.

Captive Housewives

Part of our national culture is the idea of "cliente" [caseria]. Accustomed to patronizing the same vendor [casera] all the time, consumers become a sort of captive, and it is difficult for them to break out. The consumer will put up with anything from the vendor, and will pay her whatever price she feels like asking. No one can argue with the vendor, not only because it would be impolite, but also because a housewife without her vendor is like a lost soul.

But the markets have other charms. To specialize in selling a given product, a vendor must obtain a license. But time goes by, and business is not good; so he makes a drastic switch from groceries to fish. This is an infraction, because he needs a new registration. So he goes to the city government, submits his papers, and a file is opened. As the days go by, the file sinks into oblivion.

In the end, the municipal inspector imposes a fine on the vendor for selling something else. The merchant shows his copies, is exonerated from the fine, and everything remains the same. He will never again be punished, and the fish will continue to be sold under unhygienic conditions because the file continues to wend its way through the usual channels.

And 8,000 other files just like this one are sleeping the sleep of the just, and have been since the Orrego administration, merely for want of a change of product. But the bureaucracy has its own troubles, and let the axe fall where it may. With Juan Jose Vizcarra at the head of the municipal police, 8,320 fines have been imposed, of which 3,000 have already been thrown out. The heavy hand is not always implacable.

Secret

The fact is that there are invoices in the wholesale market. Sure, if they all had a price, the problem would be formidable; but that is not the case. The majority of them have the most important part left blank, and they serve only to prove that the transaction took place legally. God only knows what lies behind it.

There are many surprises to be found at this supply center. The municipal police, famous for wielding bribes like a banner, discover an irregularity and immediately notify the violator. This is where the mafia, so excellently organized, comes on the scene. The policeman, in turn, is notified; all are on the list and all have their price. Bribery can accomplish anything, and there is no ethics or honor. The policeman has to choose between a threat and a reward.

Now the supply depends on the fluctuation of income, the variation in prices, the intensity of demand that day, and other variables. This is where the Agriculture Ministry's Office of Market Information comes into play; through its reporters, it issues a brief communique signed by one Julio Veintemilla. This document stipulates that the maximum profit margins allowed for retailers are set in accordance with wholesale invoicing. This is a gross error, considering that the invoices bear no prices.

United Against Vizcarra

In a small area on the second floor of the Lima City Hall, Juan Jose Vizcarra, chairman of the Citizen Safety Commission, tries to instill a spirit of honor in some of his troops, who are listening to him in a martial setting. At present only 130 individuals are employed as municipal police officers, and not long ago Vizcarra himself placed 23 of them at the disposal of personnel, supposedly for disciplinary reasons.

The tragedy of the municipal police, aside from its bad reputation, is the paltry monthly salary. A man in his early 50s with 22 years of service confessed to us that he receives only 3,823 intis a month. "I have four children in school, and that salary is not enough to make ends meet," he says with resignation, hoping for some improvement.

But Vizcarra has some brand-new ideas that he would like to implement, although the success of these notions is highly doubtful. Witness the occasion of the Civil Guard strike, when he came out with his little army to put things right, equipped with a portable megaphone and dressed in shirtsleeves. "We are the bad guys in the movie," he says seriously, "and we work hard, as during the strike, to show our determination to give the municipal guard the place of honor it deserves in our city."

Thanks to his audacity, the traditional restaurant Raimondi was shut down because two little parakeets were found in the kitchen. He was also responsible for the temporary closing of the place where bohemians and intellectuals hang out, dubbed La Capilla, because its restrooms were not in good order. Now there is also the fine assessment board, which determines on the spot whether a penalty is appropriate or not and which penalty unit should be applied. But times have changed, and Vizcarra's strictness is unfortunately based on ancient regulations and obsolete laws.

No Continuity

The municipal administration has a big problem to contend with, the short length of its terms. The Aprist administration has apparently not had any sense of continuity, so all of the accomplishments of the previous administration have ended up on the trash heap. This is especially true of what was done in the markets, such as the popular consumption network which had already set up 300 distribution booths throughout Lima.

But the problem goes deeper still. ECASA, which is the official marketing entity, does not have a single member of Emtracar, the municipal agency that dazzled us 2 years ago with gigantic refrigerator trucks the size of aircraft carriers and led us to believe that the middlemen were gone forever.

Emtracar has been practically dismantled, and it has yielded only relative benefits. The same is true of the La Peruanita brand of canned fish that was sold in all the markets at 5 intis a can. Now we have gone backward, and the incentives are gone. We must wait, then, another 3 years so that the consumer protection mechanism can begin functioning again to some degree, because

everything that had been accomplished has been undone by the present Aprist administration.

Educating the Consumer

The psychology of the consumer is also topsy-turvy. To the Mothers Club, it is clear that men are to blame for many of the ills the plague the markets. In general, the father "does his shopping" early, and never argues over prices. He meekly pays without a word, and takes off like a bat out of hell. Shame or dignity? The fact is that while women haggle over prices—it is enough to see the complaint programs on television—and go find an official to obtain a little justice, men, in contrast, literally shrink away, and never go to the consumer protection booths. This is how one volunteer explains the situation.

Laziness is also to blame to a certain extent. There are people who buy greens chopped up in little plastic bags, weighing a scant 1/4 kilo. Controls stop working at this point, because some people will pay any price to save a few minutes peeling vegetables, and this contributes to the formation of a micromarket within a much more complex monster.

And although the housewife's mentality has changed, it is also true that city governments should create their own marketing monopoly, eliminating intermediary agents. Thus, it is necessary to establish an alternative circuit aimed at destroying the mafias. This should clearly begin with the control agencies in the form of coordinated, comprehensive efforts. But that is another can of worms.

8926

CSO: 3348/388

EX-ENVOY TO U.S. UNDER DRUGS CLOUD, ASSAILS U.S. AGENCIES

Herbert Statement

Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 9 May 87 p 2

[Editorial]

[Summary] Released from any ethical constraints pertaining to his determination to vindicate his name, now that he has resigned his post as Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency Dr William V. Herbert issued a statement at the public meeting held by the People's Action Movement at Manchester Avenue on Thursday night. Dr Herbert's statement contained a withering attack on certain elements in a few U.S. Agencies who, he charged, are collaborating with some key British personnel to violate and undermine the Laws and integrity of Anguilla and neighbouring Islands.

Dr Herbert made several startling disclosures during the course of his public statement. He stated that he had gained access to a 1983 report of a Select Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives that revealed a detailed plan for dealing with the flow of U.S. Currency to the tax havens of the Caribbean. The report recommended using the C.B.I., and allegations about drug money as weapons in this fight to stem the tide caused by the leakage of tax dollars.

Dr Herbert also said he refused an offer made by personnel from one of the Agencies in the Treasury Department, which would have sought to involve him in giving out confidential information on U.S. Nationals and their investments and holdings in Bank Accounts, companies, hotels and factories.

Dr Herbert explained that an arrangement was made by the FBI and the English Attorney General of Anguilla to bring Scotland Yard Officers and FBI agents into Anguilla and, bypassing local Police and Government Officials, have them sworn in as special constables of the Anguilla Police Force. They they obtained false search warrants, not based on any allegation of any crime, and coerced their way into a Bank and the Chambers of Dr Herbert's Law Offices threatening bad publicity.

In this way, these overseas investigators gained access to confidential records and proceeded to allege that the Bank Accounts exceeding \$50,000.00 had to be drug-related. Seven accounts were frozen, and three lawyers were hired to

successfully defend these accounts. The lawyers were successful in removing the freezing order and the accounts were shipped out of the Island.

This, said Dr Herbert, produced threats and anger in the FBI and Scotland Yard Agents, who, it is said, obtain up to 30% of recovered money as commissions. The next thing that happened was that an FBI agent's affidavit made a false and outlandish reference to Dr Herbert, which was obviously a massive lie. The incident which occurred off the Irish Coast took place in September 1984, whereas the company said to have been used to set up the incident of September 1984 was not formed until some time in 1985, a fact which provides total and absolute proof that the basis of the libellous article could never have taken place at all.

Dr Herbert also brought out that he was not even present in Anguilla when that Company was formed in 1985, that he is not and has never been an Officer or Director of that Company, and that he is not and has never been an Officer or Director of any offshore company in Anguilla,

Dr Herbert charged in his statement that the behaviour of these FBI Agents and their accomplices are distracting people from the real drug offenders in the area, are destroying friendly USA/Caribbean relationships and is giving rise to the alarming development that every lawyer in the Caribbean who forms companies for foreign clients may be deemed by United States Agents to be criminally responsible for any alleged behaviour of his clients.

Simmonds-Opposition Review

Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 2 May 87 p 4

[Text]

On Thursday of this week, the Prime Minister the Right Honourable Dr. Kennedy Simmonds received the Leader of the Opposition the Honourable Charles Mills at Government Headquarters. With the Leader of the Opposition were the Leader of the Labour Party Mr. Lee Moore, the Secretary General of the Labour Party the Honourable Joseph France and Labour Party Executive Member Mr. St. John Payne.

Prime Minister

Simmonds acceded to meet with the delegation in response to an approach made Wednesday by the Leader of the Opposition the Honourable Charles Mills.

After introducing his delegation, the Honourable Charles Mills said that Mr. Moore would lead off their presentation.

Mr. Moore made the point that the newspaper allegations made about His Excellency Ambassador Dr. William

Herbert were grave and widespread and raise a cloud on our country, and that the only successful way to deal with that is to have His Excellency Ambassador Herbert relieved of his entire position and to initiate an independent inquiry into the circumstances.

Mr. Moore was of the view that the Labour Party is not accusing anyone of any illegality, but felt that it is not the truth or otherwise of the

accusation, that is significant. He wished His Excellency Ambassador Herbert well, in his desire to vindicate himself.

In his response, Prime Minister Simmonds acknowledged the straightforward manner in which the presentation had been made, and noted that the Labour Party was making no accusations.

The Prime Minister emphasised that he too is concerned about any possible repercussions on our country, but felt it would

be premature for the Government to take the action which was suggested. His Excellency Ambassador Herbert has served this country with distinction, and his innocence in the face of a gross and offensive libel was accepted by this Government, which is entirely supportive of his steps to vindicate his good name.

The Prime Minister informed the Labour Party delegation that he had summoned the United States and British Regional Diplomatic Representatives,

and has been assured that they are not aware of any grounds for action in relation to His Excellency Ambassador Herbert.

This does put a cloud on our country, said Prime Minister Simmonds, and I will monitor the situation very closely. I have that responsibility, and I will do so.

Mr. Moore thanked Prime Minister Simmonds for receiving the Labour Party delegation and said he understood that his position was different from that of the Labour Party.

Anguilla Role

Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 30 May 87 p 2

[Editorial]

[Excerpt]

The truth is that Dr. Herbert's detractors, all of them, including the defeated Lee Moore and his defeated Labour Party, have made a sad and sorry mistake. Information reaching us indicates that Ambassador Herbert has mobilised a broad spectrum of support in his determination to vindicate his name and also the integrity of the jurisdiction and law-making authority of our small but proud and liberated islands.

Other information now in our possession indicates that the Attorney General of Anguilla, has conceded that he has virtually been an unwitting participant in the FBI's so-called narcotics operation which he now agrees "goes far wider than narcotics investigations." Indeed, Attorney General Whitehead has gone as far as to despatch a telex message to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London, copied to the British Embassy in Washington,

urging them to take the whole matter up with the U.S. Authorities as a matter of priority. The necessary action, we understand, will be taken forthwith. In addition, a Diplomat with high-ranking connections in Washington, describing Ambassador Herbert as "a good friend of the United States", has warned the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State that American interests in the region will surely suffer if Dr. Herbert is seen to be the target of wrongful harassment by U.S. Agencies. THE DEMOCRAT will continue to play a leading role in the vindication of Ambassador Herbert!

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CSO: 3298/250

SIMMONDS SEES ANTIGOVERNMENT PLOT; LABOR LINKS TO DRUGS CITED

Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 16 May 87 pp 4, 9, 11

[Column "Back to What?" signed "by Sheriff"]

[Excerpts]

The development over the past weeks concerning one of our more illustrious, educated, honourable sons of the soil, Dr. W. V. Herbert is another blatant reinforcement of the truth announced by Dr. Simmonds, that calculated plans are afoot to bring down his lawfully elected Government when he first spoke about the destabilization efforts, Labour said nothing 'tall go so. They got a tinkering citizen to scribble some trumped up allegations about this and that. Yet this very Spokesman contradicts itself week after week by publishing what they claim to refute.

They nurtured the virus which caused the drug epidemic and now it has reached pandemic proportions. So now they don't like the resolution of this Government to work. They want to stop back and to mash up the country and live in oil. Every time they open their mouth about drug related allegations, they say: "Something in it!

They must know, for they are in it and have always been in it. Something has to be in it when banks can make a mailing mistake and send a coded name with a "B" to an individual with upward from \$75000 in one account and so frighten the receiver that he started saying "Me can't got so much money - that ain't mine! Something in it!"

Something has to be in it when a Leader of Labour is promoting marijuana as medicinal. Something has to be in it when the Labour lawyers waiting on drug cases like a haunted Undertaker waits for another corpse. Something has to be

in it when a famous drug lawyer or lawyers in Labour cruise down the streets of the city in executive BMW and other fancy cars, the status wheels of the nation. Something has to be in it when one man is going to be tramping the streets fearlessly with a whole suitcase full of small bills to pay one bill. Something has to be in it.

Let those who are alleging that respectable individuals in the country are involved in drugs grin their continuously elongated teeth. Who laughs last laughs best. I hope that those teeth with which they grin are firm and solid, and not false, for a whole set of dentures can fall out and leave the gums bare.

Dr. Herbert's case can be anybody's. It can be yours. It can be mine. There is no reason to play sorry on one side and light up on the other side. Hypocrisy is rank and treacherous. An investigation DOES NOT ALWAYS IMPLICATE CRIMINALS. INNOCENT PEOPLE SOMETIMES SUFFER.

We wait for Dr. Herbert's vindication. We do not wait to test his character. We know he has character and integrity in abundance. But we now have to view the unscrupulous false accusers extremely closely. They are responsible for causing a drug epidemic to escalate here. They fostered its expansion and growth. Just listen to their platform speeches and you will hear who it is really encouraging drug trafficking and drug abuse in this country. Imagine they put a convicted drugsman to talk on their platform, and imagine they gave a public endorsement when he said that the Government don't even want them to smoke up their spliff.

They entered Government like paupers and emerged as barons. They entered Government on their foot and emerged in the status cars. One family with seven (7) vehicles. They entered Government without land and one of them emerged with a house sitting on fifteen (15) acres looking down on poor people. Another one recently swore in an Affidavit that his property where he lives near to the one with the 15 acres is worth the princely sum of \$650,000. How did they get from rags to riches?

People need to judge for themselves. The PAM/NRP Government is the opposite of that. The Prime Minister has sacrificed a money-

making specialist medical practice in order to
serve this country.

But who it is the Labour people turned to
when they were in trouble and needed to find
some quick money to replace the money which
they funnelled from National Bank into their
deeep pockets? Someone who gave them a suit-
case full of U.S. money - \$80,000 in U.S. money
in SMALL BILLS. Where they get that money
from?

/9274
CSO, 3298/250

U.S. 'ATTACKS' ON TAX HAVENS ALSO TARGET ST KITTS-NEVIS

Basseterre THE DEMOCRATIC in English 16 May 87 p 3

[Text]

Recent events in St. Kitts and Nevis have generated much discussion on the reasons for the sudden and vicious attacks on this country, its Government officials and corporate lawyers.

It is to be observed that these attacks have only originated since the passing of the Offshore Companies Act which was followed by the Confidential Relationships Act.

Secret policy documents of several United States Agencies are now surfacing which clearly indicates the Agencies intentions to crush all the tax haven countries. Some of the tax havens listed in these documents include Anguilla, The Bahamas, The British Virgin Islands, The Cayman Islands, Liechtenstein, Panama, St. Kitts and Nevis and Switzerland.

The concern seems to be that these countries have been successful in attracting wealthy tourists, manufacturers and other business investors which they foresee as signalling a depletion of tax dollars from the United States. The other more morbid concern of these agents is the dangling reward of receiving 25 percent or more of any fines over \$50,000.00 or any funds they can freeze and forfeit in banks which they can successfully tag as laundered money. This last incentive has recently sent all types of agents scurrying around the globe in their attempt to reap hefty rewards and live happily ever after. These agents appear sometimes under cover posing as reporters or banking consultants using the main tactic listed in these operating manuals called "targeting".

Their purpose is to mount an assault on a country considered to be a tax haven and "concentrate on a particular individual, group

corporation or bank". On Page 131 of the document prepared by the Department of Justice in 1983 for use by agents it says of the policy of "targeting", that "this approach can produce the best results".

We have seen in recent times how the Offshore International Bank was "targeted" and the Caribbean Commercial Bank of Anguilla and corporate Lawyer, Dr. William V. Herbert was "targeted". We have also witnessed in recent times the attempt by the Labour Opposition Party to "target" the Deputy Prime Minister, a man who is visualised as one of the persons primarily responsible for attracting hotel and other investments to the Federation.

The intention of these agents appears to be to muddy waters of legitimate tax saving dollars by associating such funds with allegations of narcotics trafficking, gun-running and fraud. Coupled with this approach is the bullying methods used to engender fear of bad publicity to respectable persons who they hope would breach the confidentiality laws of their country and help to discourage the flow of investments leaving the United States, rather than have their name associated with crime. In cases of resistance, the damaging rumour or gossip is channelled through individuals and institutions such as Opposition Parties who are known to have some personal interest in disseminating the false information.

Many progressive countries are now recognising the sinister intentions behind this new drive by Foreign Agents, who seem to be more concerned about stopping the flow of dollars to the Caribbean and other tax havens than about tackling drug trafficking and other forms of criminality.

In making the recommendation for a 25 percent reward it was stated that this would provide "a powerful incentive for persons to come forward and report financial transactions". What these policy makers failed to state is that this substantial reward system can also provide a powerful incentive for lies and corruption.

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CSO: 3298/250

LABOR PARTY LEADER MOORE DISCUSSES POLITICAL ISSUES

Basseterre THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN in English 18, 25 Apr; 2, 23 May 87

[Installments from the series "Conversations With Labour's Leader"; name of interviewer and date and place of interview with Labor Party leader Lee Moore not given]

[18 Apr 87 p 10]

[Text]

Interviewer: Comrade Mooore, I want to talk to you about Labour and Young People.

It has been represented that Labour is not a party for young people and that only the very old support the Labour Party. How do you feel about this?

Leader: I have to admit that I have heard that position expressed: I recognise it as PAM propaganda but it is propaganda which gained some currency all the same.

The cleverly combined it with another of their propaganda notions that Labour is a purely sugar party and offers no future for young people.

Both ideas caught on the point where I heard people who were voting for PAM saying "I am voting for my future and my children."

I have lived to hear those same people ruefully regret the step they took in voting for PAM. They recognise now that they were DECEIVED.

I think the best way to get a proper understanding is to look at how each party has approached the concerns of young people.

Many of the young people who are in the professions today and who hold other prestigious jobs in banks, in airline management and various other areas are the

children of ordinary working people some of whom are barely literate.

That is not an accident. 35 years ago you couldn't find a black face on the serving side of a bank's counter. Mr. Bradshaw and his colleagues set about systematically to change that.

Labour's interest in young people is demonstrated through the emphasis on education.

While we have had a sound system of education based on the three Rs programme for a long time secondary or Grammar School education was the preserve of the privileged few who could afford it.

The Labour Party had a policy which called for positive expansion of secondary education.

In place of one St. Kitts-Nevis Grammar School and one Girls' High School, Labour added the Charlestown Secondary School, the Sandy Point High School, the Gingerland High School, the Cayon High School, the Basseterre Junior High School.

This expansion made possible the introduction of the system where virtually every child at age 12 could obtain secondary education.

When Labour was doing that PAM was opposing. Now the system is not without shortcomings but it has provided avenues of development for many more talented people.

Because of that University education became available and accessible to a larger number of people.

Labour established the Technical College locally to train young men and women to certain levels in certain skills such as automotive engineering, refrigeration and air conditioning, the building trades, hotel trades etc.

Parallel to that Labour established the apprenticeship programme. As young people were trained employment opportunities were created to absorb them in offices, in banks, in insurance companies, in hotels, in factories making garments, shoes, electronic components etc.

To complete the picture Labour's policies called for the establishment of an Institution of Tertiary Level Education.

Labour encouraged the formation of youth groups and organisations to promote culture, sports and other activities.

The 4-H Organisation was formed and flourished under Labour. The decade of the 70's was like a kind of cultural renaissance here in St. Kitts; there were so many groups of young people making music and the theatre was active.

How have the young people fared under PAM?

In 7 years they have made no significant addition or improvement to the education system. If anything the system is deteriorating.

They have been responsible for retarding the development of the College of Higher Education.

Young people are leaving school with 'O' and 'A' levels and cannot find jobs. Frustration and boredom are eating away at their young lives.

Jobs are rapidly disappearing. More young people are being turned into criminals.

The drug culture is flourishing. The society lacks discipline. Young people are producing children they are not able to care for. There is a serious housing shortage afflicting those serious young people embarking upon life.

In a word, PAM has shattered the zeal and idealism of young people.

PAM's offering to the young people of the country has been in the form of playingfields, hard courts, flood lights and balls as if life is a long glorious game and we lived permanently in a stadium. Yet even in the sporting areas, young people were much more successful in the days of Labour.

We're running out of time today, but I just want to make the point that PAM has no real interest in young people; they just want to use young people.

Let me cite a very recent incident which illustrates this point.

The St. Kitts Youth Council was formed last year. I recall at the time of its formation Cde. Charles Mills called for a "hands-off" attitude by the politicians.

Now just last week the Council took on a major project, a cultural show which they called a KALEIDOSCOPE of our culture. The Youth Council invited the Cabinet Ministers. One lone Minister in the person of Roy Jones turned up.

The Prime Minister did not attend.

The Deputy Prime Minister did not attend.

The Minister responsible for Youth did not attend.

The Minister of Women's Affairs did not attend (there were young ladies taking part in a talent contest).

I have heard that the Youth Council people feel insulted. I think they are justified.

It seems clear to me that the government snubbed the Youth Council because the Council did not allow the government to use them.

Interviewer: Comrade Moore, we shall have to return to this subject next time.

[25 Apr 87 p 11]

[Text]

Interviewer: Comrade Moore, let us return to this subject of the Labour Party and young people. Many young people feel that it was PAM that gave them the vote at 18.

Leader: I understand that but I think we should place that in historical perspective.

The first thing I think all of us including the young people must understand is that it was only 35 years ago, in 1952, that universal adult suffrage came to this country i.e. the system under which every adult man and woman could vote. And it was Labour that was responsible for bringing in that system.

Many young people take this right to vote for granted; they seem to think the right existed from time immemorial, but it has been here for a period shorter than my lifetime.

Put another way, there are people alive today who can remember when they were grown men and women and could not vote.

That right had to be fought for and won. When it was won the right belonged to every adult man and woman.

As we followed the English Law a person was considered an adult at age 21. That was the case not only in the U.K. but in many other countries and it remained so until relatively recently.

Then a trend began to develop of recognising that persons were maturing at an earlier age and people began to be regarded as being adult at age 18. Laws were changed to reflect that.

We were bound to follow that trend sooner or later.

In 1980 Labour prepared a draft Independence Constitution. The proposal in that draft was that young people should be able to vote at age 18.

But the government changed before Independence came.

The present government proposed in a bill that young people be allowed to vote at age 18.

It was Labour which pointed out that that was a wholly inadequate proposal and called for the legal age of majority to be fixed at 18 years. In the end the law was passed to make persons fully adult at age 18. That law had the support of all political parties.

Interviewer: Comrade Moore, it seems to me that quite a lot of young people are leaving to go abroad. Do you wish to comment on this?

Leader: I don't think we should pretend that people leaving St. Kitts to go abroad in search of a better life is a new phenomenon. People have always left St. Kitts (Sink it) for Panama, for the Dominican Republic, for Bermuda, for the Netherlands Antilles, for England, for the U.S. Virgin Islands, for St. Maarten, for the United States.

In each case they went in search of a better life. Some went to get a job or a better job or a more lucrative job and try to get some money.

A goodly number went in search of educational opportunities. They wanted to qualify themselves to make a contribution.

Many of them intended to return home. Quite a number remained abroad because it seemed to them that no opportunities were being created for them at home.

A progressive policy would seek to do at least two things. It would seek to stem the tide and reduce the numbers of those emigrating and it would seek to attract some who live abroad to return home to make a contribution.

You may or may not remember that it was I who used the term "talent in exile" to refer to those of our nationals abroad to whom we were issuing an invitation to return home to help in the process of development.

The idea caught on. Indeed it was adopted by the present government.

More and more local young people were finding themselves in positions of influence and authority under Labour.

The present government have reversed those trends. So instead of stemming the tide, it is swelling.

Quite a few young nationals who came from abroad and risked their capital have lost their shirts and have had to turn again to foreign lands.

Young people who filled positions of influence and/or authority have found themselves being pushed aside so that the places can be filled by foreigners.

Several middle and top management positions which had been "Kittitianised" have now fallen back into the hands of expatriates.

Young local professionals have been treated with discourtesy and disrespect.

Because of the tragic decline in which the economy finds itself, no new opportunities are being created for young people.

The most that is being offered is a career in the Police Force. Even so, the young people are finding it frustrating rather than rewarding; so they are not staying.

They are leaving as fast as they can.

The same thing is happening to those young women who train as nurses, especially in view of the 'bond' system.

Interviewer: Comrade Moore, how does Labour propose to address the situation of young people in the future?

Leader: We propose to continue to expand and strengthen educational and training opportunities for our young people.

We propose so to deploy our resources to bring about development in our economy so that young people will be able to find reasonable and comfortable jobs right here.

This should dispel the frustration and boredom among our young people and restore to them hope and faith.

We propose to restore respect, pride and dignity to our local people in positions of influence or authority.

We propose to assist young people to gain confidence in managing their own institutions and organizations

We propose to allow youth special representation in the National Parliament.

Those are the general strategies. We want our young people to feel and to know that this land is theirs; we want them to have a stake in it and we want them to know that they have a role to perform in making the country a better place.

[2 May 87 p 10]

[Text] Interviewer: Comrade Moore, let's talk about what everyone else in St. Kitts-Nevis is talking about at this time - the charges made in the Daily Telegraph last week-end concerning Dr. Herbert.

Leader: Well, the first thing I will say is that the charges are very grave charges.

Dr. Herbert has, of course, denied the charges and has threatened to sue the Daily Telegraph and anyone else who publishes the same or any similar article.

Now, that may be alright to vindicate Dr. Herbert's character which is a matter for Dr. Herbert personally.

But the charges do not affect Dr. Herbert alone. The fact that those charges have been made causes a cloud to hang over this country.

The reputation of the entire country has been called into question.

Whatever steps Dr. Herbert may take to vindicate his own character it is ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY to do something to restore and rebuild the reputation of the country.

Interviewer: Comrade Moore, why do you describe the charges as very grave charges?

Leader: There are several reasons.

First, because of the stature of the figure against whom the charges are levelled.

Dr. Herbert is an Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary. Then he is the country's Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Ambassador to the Organization of American States (OAS). He is also Ambassador to Japan and until recently was Ambassador to the United States. They don't come much bigger than that.

Second, because of the nature of the charges themselves. To describe anyone as an international money launderer cannot be considered a light matter.

To link a person with the procuring of arms for the IRA must be regarded as being of the utmost seriousness.

It is also a profoundly serious charge to accuse a senior diplomat of a country of consorting with members of a known criminal gang.

Thirdly, the charges must be considered serious because of the medium in which the publication was first made.

The Daily Telegraph is ranked as a high quality daily British newspaper.

It is owned by influential British interests. Its regular readership includes some of the most important people in the United Kingdom.

The paper is a pro - Tory newspaper i.e., it is supportive of the Conservative Party which forms the present government in the United Kingdom.

I just pause here to give a reminder that some time ago while the Conservative Party were holding their conference, I believe at Brighton, there was an attack on the hotel where the delegates were.

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Thatcher barely escaped with her life. The attack was said to be the work of the IRA.

That makes clear why involvement by anyone with the IRA would be regarded as a profoundly serious matter in Britain.

Then we should note the prominence given to the report. It is the main lead story on the FRONT PAGE of the newspaper.

Again we should pay attention to the official agencies which are reported as participating in investigations - the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency, the F.B.I. and Scotland Yard.

Note should also be taken of the magnitude and scale of the investigating operations. The investigations have gone on for some considerable time and have involved co-operation between the U.S.A. and the U.K. on Satellite tracking.

Furthermore, since the article was first published in the Daily Telegraph last Saturday, the information has received extensive media coverage, particularly in North America.

The report has appeared in 2 Boston newspapers and in Miami. It has also appeared in the San Juan Star and in the St. Thomas Daily News.

A shortened report appeared in the Globe and Mail of Toronto on April 29.

That same evening Voice of America carried a news item concerning the matter.

I am also told that the B.B.C. carried a report on the story on Thursday evening.

It appears that Dr. Herbert will have a lot of suing to do.

Interviewer: In the light of the seriousness which you have outlined, what do you think ought to be done?

Leader: I think that Dr. Herbert should be relieved of his position as a representative of this country abroad. This is not a matter of options.

It must be that there is almost a CONVENTION governing a situation like this.

Take the example of the Iran Arms scandal in the United States. The rights and wrongs of this matter have not yet been sorted out.

But in the meantime certain persons have had to give up their positions. Admiral Pomdexter, for example.

All the persons affected are still protesting their innocence but in the meantime, they have removed themselves or they have been removed from public office.

That issue is the subject matter of a special inquiry.

A country's ambassador is its voice and its face abroad. That person should be beyond reproach. Like Caesar's wife, he must be above suspicion.

Interviewer: Dr. Herbert has resigned as Ambassador to the U.S. Do you consider that more adequate?

Leader: Certainly not. That move does not make sense to me except it be that it was intended to deceive people into believing that he had resigned and therefore allaying their fears and concerns.

That resignation does not in any way redeem the good name of the country.

The position is still that whatever is imputed to Dr. Herbert will affect the country. And Dr. Herbert still, after all, has his diplomatic immunity.

Moreover, the Prime Minister has committed the government as being fully in support of Dr. Herbert.

So the country's fate right now continues to be inextricably bound up with the fate of Dr. Herbert. That should not be.

Interviewer: Comrade Moore, it was announced that a delegation of the Labour Party was due to meet with the Prime Minister. What happened about that?

Leader: The meeting took place. The Labour Party delegation comprised Comrades Mills, France, Payne and myself.

The Prime Minister was attended by the Attorney General, the Minister for Women's Affairs, and his Press and Public Relations Secretary.

Our delegation expressed the serious concern of the entire country.

We discussed the matter in a forthright way and suggested that Dr. Herbert be relieved of his responsibilities and that an independent inquiry into the allegations be established locally.

The Prime Minister agreed there was a cloud over the country, but said his government had to assume Dr. Herbert's innocence and he could not agree with the course suggested by us.

We believe that the international repercussions of this affair will be enormous. The government has no right to gamble this country to please Dr. Herbert.

If the government is not prepared to take steps to FREE THE COUNTRY from the CLOUD then the government itself should RESIGN.

[23 May 87 p 10]

[Text] Interviewer: Comrade Moore, we have spoken briefly about tourism before but I wish to return to it because it is constantly being asserted that the Labour Party is not in favour of tourism. What is your response to that assertion?

Leader: My response is that that assertion is quite wrong. It is an assertion that flies in the face of the facts. It is an assertion made by those who do not wish to give the Labour Party any credit.

The fact is that the Labour Party has always said and I repeat it now that the Labour Party favours the development of the tourist industry as a feature in the overall plan for economic development.

To be sure we are not in favour of an economy based Exclusively on tourism.

The Labour Party conceived a development plan which proceeded along 4 parallel lines - the rationalisation of the sugar industry; the broadening of non-sugar agriculture including the processing of agricultural produce; the development of tourism and the establishment of labour intensive light manufacturing industries, especially of the high tech variety.

My opinion is that this was a very rational plan.

Not only has the Labour Party said it is in favour of tourism. But it has done a number of things in furtherance of its plans for the development of a tourist industry.

Way back in 1966 the Labour Party unveiled a plan for the development of the Frigate Bay Estate into a modern

tourist resort with hotels and condominiums, recreational facilities, a marina etc.

That was the ill-fated INDELCO plan. It had been worked out between the Labour Government and developers in the U.K. In 1966 terms the whole development was estimated to cost some \$96 million.

But the whole thing was frustrated and not accidentally but by deliberate design of the People's Action Movement.

The leaders of that movement with the active help and co-operation of certain other influential people in the community went far and wide "bad-talking" the country.

They took a full page advertisement in the New York Times newspaper to denounce the government and discourage investment.

They recruited certain short-sighted taximen to further their schemes of purveying false propaganda hurtful to the country.

But what more than anything was responsible for stultifying the plans was the perception of instability and the unfavourable publicity which surrounded the attempted coup of June 10th 1967. It took the country a very long time to recover from the adverse effects of that episode.

But the Labour government never wavered in its determination. It kept right on pursuing its plans for the development of tourism.

The infrastructure had to be laid down.

The airport had to be redesigned. The runway was realigned and lengthened to take jet aircraft.

Funds were not unlimited so even then it was recognised that it could not be built to a length to accomodate the largest transcontinental jets taking off for Europe with a full-load.

The government was not given a great deal of encouragement.

The British government from which the funds were sought took the view that there was no need for such an airport on St. Kitts with Antigua so close by.

They were not prepared to fund it as a special project. In the face of the persistence of the local Labour

government, the British government agreed that all aid funds for a 4 year period could be channelled into the airport project on condition that we were willing to forego everything else.

It was a measure of Labour's commitment to tourism that the government accepted that condition. That is how the jet airport was built. Once that was done, the Government of Canada gave the new terminal building as part of its assistance to airport projects in the Caribbean.

In the meantime the plans for Frigate Bay had to be modified to get something going. After much determined effort the government succeeded in starting the network of roads, of installing electricity and putting in water and of laying down a championship golf course.

Labour did not stop there. Plans were made for the building of a Deep Water Harbour. The scheme had to be justified to the Caribbean Development Bank which provided the bulk of the financing for its construction.

The bank would not allow its justification in terms of tourism alone. But it accepted that it would be economically viable if it took into account also a capability for handling and shipping sugar in a more efficient way. The Labour government got on with it and construction began on the Deep Water Harbour.

Transportation alone does not constitute tourism. Even with the most modern airport and seaport facilities carriers are not interested in bringing people unless those people can be accommodated. There must be places for them to stay and things for them to do.

There was in fact a kind of "chicken and egg" situation. Hotel people would not build hotels without a guarantee of transportation. The carriers would express no interest unless hotels were built.

The cycle had to be broken.

Here again the Labour government did a number of things.

As early as 1968 the government granted incentives for the construction of Fairview Inn and later Ocean Terrace Inn.

This latter benefitted further from assistance by the Caribbean Development Bank and the Caribbean

Investment Corporation under the auspices, so to speak, of the Labour government.

It is worth restating for the record the personal interest I took and the help given by the Administration which I headed to the rebuilding effort at this establishment after it was damaged by fire in 1979.

The latest expansion which is ongoing there was already approved also by my Cabinet as one of its earliest tasks.

Then there is the Fort Thomas Hotel. This was built by a local group of investors with heavy input from the Labour government.

A lot of the early input was in the form of advances and guarantees. It was afterwards all converted to equity and I believe the government is now the largest shareholder.

The government also undertook the building of a quality hotel at Frigate Bay. This was the original Royal St. Kitts Hotel.

I am sure the public will remember the absurd arrangement the PAM government made for the sale of the hotel.

My informatin is that up to now they have not received any money for the hotel other than that which the then Premier Dr. Simmonds said they had received.

/9274

CSO: 3298/250

SEDITION CHARGE AGAINST LEE MOORE DISMISSED IN COURT

Basseterre THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN in English 25 Apr 87 p 1

[Text]

Labour Party Leader and Union President Cde. Lee Moore appeared before the District Magistrates' Court in Old Road on Thursday morning of this week, April 23, to answer to his bail in respect of sedition charges brought against him by the Simmonds government. Cde. Moore and his sureties were discharged by the Presiding Magistrate His Worship Mr. Hesketh Benjamin after the prosecution had indicated that they were not ready to proceed with the matter.

A British trained lawyer by profession and former Attorney General and Premier of the state of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, Cde. Moore was arrested twice April 1st - All Fools Day - on two charges of sedition citing identical words. He was granted bail that same day by the District 'A' Magistrate Mr. John Lynch-Wade in the sum of \$5,000 on each count, with two sureties.

At the Old Road sitting Mr. Moore was represented by barrister-at-law Dr. Henry Browne, assisted by lawyers Theodore Hobson, Vernon Veira, Glenford Hamilton, Tommy Astaphan, Claudette Jenkins and Myrna Walwyn.

Renowned lawyer and Queen's Counsel Mr. Cosmos Phillips flew in from Antigua just before the start of the proceedings Thursday morning.

Mr. Phillips, who is a former Antigua Attorney General is President of the Bar Association of Antigua and Barbuda.

Mr. Phillips explained that he came in the role of observer and to demonstrate solidarity.

He was introduced to the bench by Dr. Browne. His Worship spoke fitting words of welcome to the eminent Barrister.

After a few preliminaries on the question of bail, the Magistrate enquired, "Mr. D.P.P. do you have a copy of the bail for the Court?"

"No, Sir," replied Mr. Butler.

"They seem to be in disarray, Your Worship. But we are ready and the four sureties are here," said Dr. Browne.

"You all must remember that I know nothing of this matter apart from what I hear on the streets. I would

think that the D.P.P. should have his file. I am not telling people how to do their business. I am simply saying it as I see it," said His Worship.

Dr. Browne announced to the Court that the D.P.P. had indicated to him that the prosecution was not ready and therefore he was applying for extension of his client's bail.

Dr. Browne emphasized that the defence was ready to proceed.

The Director of Public Prosecutions then told the Court the prosecution was not ready and asked for an adjournment.

The Magistrate pressed the D.P.P. to give reasons why he should grant a request for an adjournment in the case.

The D.P.P. responded: "Your Worship, because of the nature of the charges and the contents of the words complained of, Sir, it is imperative that there is a proper investigation. The investigation is still going on and it is not complete and therefore we are asking for time to complete our investigations".

He requested an adjournment of at least three weeks. But the defence argued that it was not an established practice in law to arrest and charge someone with an offence of this nature before investigating, urging the Magistrate to find that the

reasons advanced by the D.P.P. were not bona fide.

Dr. Browne then requested that both charges brought against Cde. Moore should be quashed on the grounds that they were not well founded in law having regard to what the DPP had said.

The Magistrate, after much deliberation, responded: "I think you have one problem, Dr. Browne. The matter is not before me. The first step is to answer the bail. But I don't have a charge. I don't have a complaint".

He therefore discharged Cde. Moore and his sureties "until when or if the matter is ready".

Cde. Moore's matter started about 10:30 o'clock and ended at 11:30 a.m. The defendant left the Court to a tumultuous welcome of hundreds of supporters and sympathizers, ringing bells and wildly shaking the hands of his supporting lawyers, including Mr. Cosmos Phillips Q.C.

This was later followed by a spontaneous and colourful mini-motorcade into Basseterre. The procession wended its way through West Basseterre, Central Basseterre and East Basseterre, winding up at Masses House, headquarters of the Union and Party. Cde. Moore then addressed a gathering briefly in Masses Yard.

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CSO: 3298/250

YOUTH COUNCIL PRESIDENT STRESSES GROUP'S NONPARTISAN ROLE

Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 9 May 87 p 4

[Letter to the Editor]

[Text]

ST. KITTS YOUTH COUNCIL
Basseterre

27 April 1987

The Editor
Labour Spokesman
Masses House
Church Street
Basseterre

Dear Sir,

The Youth Council is looking very seriously into two articles which appeared in the Labour Spokesman on Wednesday 4 March and Saturday 18 April 1987.

The article for Wednesday 4 March appeared in the Editorial column under the caption "PAM's Politics of Dishonesty". I would like to bring to your attention the paragraph which deals with the Youth Council. "Which Prime Minister who claims to believe in the power of democracy will summon the President of a National Youth

Council to appear before him for the sole purpose of directing him as to what he should do and not do with respect to the body politics."

I must point out Sir, for the benefit of the young people of St. Kitts, that the words in that paragraph are untrue, damaging to the Youth Council and an attempt to mislead the youth of the country. The other article appeared in your newspaper for Saturday 18 April 1987 under the caption "Conversations with Labour's leader". The Youth Council was once again the subject of discussion. The following is an extract from the conversation.

"The St. Kitts Youth Council was formed last year. I recall at the time of its formation Cde Charles Mills called for a 'hands-off' attitude by the politicians. Now just last week the Council took on a major project, a cultural show

which they called a kaleidoscope of our culture. The Youth Council invited the Cabinet Ministers. One lone Minister in the person of Roy Jones turned up. I have heard that the Youth Council people feel insulted, I think they are justified. It seems clear to me that the Government snubbed the Youth Council because the Council did not allow the Government to use them".

I would like the general public to know through this medium that the Youth Council has no quarrels with Government. Since its formation, the Youth Council has benefitted tremendously from Government.

The Prime Minister has pledged his wholehearted support to the Youth Council. This was clearly demonstrated during the Caribbean Federation of Youth Conference which was held here last year October.

The Minister of Education, Health and Community Affairs has also pledged his support for the Council. He was very instrumental in getting the Council formed. At the recently

concluded Queen Show of the Youth Council, the Hon. Sidney Morris donated a Trophy to the Youth Council. This trophy was handed over to the Queen on the night of the Show.

Please note that the Youth Council is non-partisan and it should not be dragged into party politics by neither Labour nor PAM. We strongly deplore any statements made by politicians in this country, on matters relating to the Youth Council, for the sole purpose of gaining political mileage.

The Youth Council would like to call upon the Labour Spokesman and the Democrat to refrain from printing anything which seeks to discredit any politician or political party.

The Youth Council would be very grateful if this letter could be printed in your paper to enlighten the general public.

Sincerely
ST. KITT'S YOUTH COUNCIL

Theodore Brown
PRESIDENT

c.c. The Democrat

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FIVE-YEAR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN PUBLISHED

Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 25 Apr 87 p 1

[Text]

The Honourable Minister of Development, Hugh Heyliger, announced the Publication and Limited Availability of a 5-year National Development Plan of St. Kitts and Nevis 1986-1990, on Tuesday at the National Assembly Meeting.

The 236-page Document was not yet available in large quantities, Mr. Heyliger said, but he assured the Members of Parliament that they would each receive a copy and in reference to the general public he said, that copies would be made available for one and all. Copies would also be distributed to the libraries and other public institutions, he added.

The National Development Plan, describes in detail Macro-Economic and Foreign Trade Policy Objectives and Targets. It makes provision for Sector Plans and Programmes in Agriculture, Industry and Tourism, and deals with Infrastructure and Social Services, Human Resource Development and the Plans Financing and Implementation and Monitoring.

The National Development Plan also includes an Appendix looking at an outline of Public Sector Investment Programme for the five-year period. The Document which provides a

detailed outline of Government's thrust in development, was distributed to Parliamentarians and is expected to be made available to the general public shortly.

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BRIEFS

LABOR-PARTY-RIFT DENIAL--Basseterre, Tuesday (CANA)--Leader of the opposition St Kitts-Nevis Labour Party Lee Moore is denying what he said are rumors of a rift in the party's hierarchy, "Labour has no leadership problem" he told last weekend's annual general meeting of the party. As if to confirm the party leader's view, the delegates returned officers in key positions, including Moore, unopposed, "This party chooses its leader through democratic elections, conducted on the floor of convention. There is no mystique about it. No one has and no one claims any divine right to be leader of the party," Moore said. He said that the government and supporters of the ruling People's Action Movement are resentful of the leadership of the Labour Party. "They have a problem with the loyalty we can evoke among the rank and file," Moore said. [Text] [Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 13 May 87 p 17] /9274

OFFICIALS IN TAIWAN--The Hon Ivan Buchanan, Speaker of the National Assembly, and Hon Tapley Seaton, Attorney General left here today for a one-week official visit to the Republic of China. The trip is aimed at developing stronger relations between the Republic of China and St Kitts and Nevis, and the Hon Speaker and Hon Attorney General will call on Government officials and Economic and cultural Offices during their stay in the Republic of China. The trip was arranged by the Embassy of the Republic of China in St Kitts and Nevis, [Text] [Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 9 May 87 p 1] /9274

ELECTORAL COMMISSION APPOINTMENT--The general public is hereby given the assurance that every effort is being made by the undermentioned to appoint a constitutionally qualified and at the same time politically uncommitted person to the Chairmanship of the Electoral Commission. I have every intention of ensuring that the mandates of the Constitution are fully observed. I am doing so with all deliberate speed, yet will resist being panicked into making any hasty or improper appointment in this matter, or indeed in any other matter. The three-man Electoral Commission has been officially without a Chairman only since March of this year. Nonetheless, two members may act in the event of a vacancy in its membership; this is expressly stated in the Constitution. Governor General, Office of the Governor General, Government House, St Kitts, 15th May, 1987. [Text] [Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 16 May 87 p 1] /9274

CDB EDUCATION PROJECT--The Prime Minister the Right Honourable Dr Kennedy Simmonds on Thursday this week signed an Agreement on behalf of the Federation

of St Kitts and Nevis which will provide a loan of EC\$3.5 Million for a Technical and Vocational Project to upgrade the educational opportunities for our growing population. Prime Minister Simmonds signed the documents in St Georges, Grenada, at the end of the Closing Ceremony of the 17th Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). The Project is designed to improve the quality and quantity of trained manpower. It will improve the quality of facilities and instruction. It will expand Training Capacity and it will enhance sector management. The Project will include construction, equipment and furniture for technician training programmes. Also provided for are vocational education programmes for High Schools as well as prevocational programmes for Junior High Schools. Under the agreement, an initial stock of consumable supplies and spare parts will be used in equipment maintenance and repair service programmes. The Project will be co-financed by the IDA, the OPEC Fund for International Development and the CDB, with counterpart contributions by the Governments. [Excerpts]
[Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 16 May 87 p 1] /9274

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END

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